

Aruba

TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, October 3, 2011

Catch Up Work



President Barack Obama and retiring Joint Chiefs Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen take part in a 'Change of Office' Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff ceremony at Ft. Myer in Arlington, Va.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

THOM SHANKER © 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON — After his Senate confirmation as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin E. Dempsey knew he had some catching up to do before being sworn in last Friday as the nation's highest-ranking officer and the principal military adviser to the president and secretary of defense. The gap in his training was not the geopolitics of the Middle East, a perpetual source of U.S. security concerns. Even before the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Dempsey was among the few senior officers who had spent significant time immersed in Muslim culture, having served for several years as an adviser to Saudi Arabia's security forces. Since 9/11, he has had two tours in Iraq and has been the acting commander of American forces across the Middle East and Central Asia. He also did not need to study how to hold together a military distressed by the longest period of nonstop war ever sustained by an all-volunteer force.

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Big Flirt



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie speaks during the Perspectives on Leadership Forum at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is reconsidering his decision to stay out of the race for the White House in 2012 and is expected to make a decision soon, according to several people close to the governor with knowledge of his thinking.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) — If New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie enters the 2012 presidential race, he could dramatically reshape what has become a two-man race between Mitt Romney and Rick Perry. But Christie, who's under pressure from some party elders to run, hasn't faced national scrutiny — and he could join other early favorites who burned out fast. The budget-cutting Christie is the latest heartthrob of Republicans who have been looking for a more exciting candidate than Romney. The former Massachusetts governor ran in

2008 and has long been considered the one to beat for the Republican nomination given the party's history of nominating candidates who lost once before. Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, a favorite of fiscal conservatives, decided not to run. So did Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, long a part of the Republican establishment. Perry, the Texas governor, jumped in to much fanfare only to sweat under the scrutiny his first national campaign brought. Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann rallied restive conservatives long enough to win a key test vote in the Iowa straw

poll but just as quickly receded to the background. Christie said in January he wasn't "arrogant enough" to run for president in 2012. Now he is reconsidering in light of encouragement from Republican luminaries like Henry Kissinger, Nancy Reagan and Barbara Bush. If he runs, Christie probably would be able to raise millions for a campaign, though his rivals have a huge head start. With about 100 days before the lead-off caucuses in Iowa, he'd face the tough task of setting up state campaign organizations swiftly, though he already has a team

of advisers with national campaign experience. As a Republican governor of a Democratic mid-Atlantic state, he could appeal to the donors and voters who like Romney's business background but are looking for a more charismatic candidate. If he does run, Christie would push a long list of second-tier candidates even further to the back of the pack. Still, some positions he's taken as New Jersey governor could run afoul of conservatives who make up the Republican base.

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Christie nod could upend Republican presidential race

Continued from Front

He would also face a national spotlight that's much harsher than those on the state or local stage.

"The swimming pool looks a lot better until you jump right in. The water may not be quite as warm as you think," Sen. John McCain, the Republican nominee in 2008, warned Sunday on CBS television's "Face the Nation."

"The best thing to be is a potential candidate," said Rich Galen, a longtime Republican strategist. "I don't think anybody can stand up to that scrutiny without laying the groundwork for a long time before. ... His positions, whatever he's done as a prosecutor, any case he's ever tried, any opinion he's ever gotten out of a judge, everything — it's all going to go under scrutiny



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, left, and former first lady Nancy Reagan arrive at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif. Christie is reconsidering his decision to stay out of the race for the White House in 2012 and is expected to make a decision soon, according to several people close to the governor with knowledge of his thinking.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

that we've seen time after time is enormously more difficult to deal with as a presidential candidate." Just ask Perry.

Two months ago, Republicans were pushing him to run. He shot to the top of

national polls of Republican voters after his announcement in mid-August. He was lauded as the kind of candidate who could energize a passionate base of social conservatives and lure business conservatives. □

Gadhafi son denies Interpol allegations

KIM GAMEL
Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Moammar Gadhafi's son, al-Saadi, denied allegations of corruption and intimidation and called Interpol's decision to put him on the equivalent of its most-wanted list political, according to an email sent Sunday. Al-Saadi Gadhafi is under house arrest in Libyan neighbor Niger, where he fled after Tripoli fell to revolutionary forces. His father and two of his brothers are in hiding, presumably inside Libya, as fighting between revolutionary forces and Gadhafi's loyalists continues on three fronts. Al-Saadi "regrets the issue of a red notice by Interpol and strenuously denies the charges made against him," an email forwarded to The Associated Press said. Interpol issued a red notice for al-Saadi last

week based on accusations he misappropriated property and engaged in "armed intimidation" when he headed the Libyan Football Federation. He also was a special forces commander and is the subject of U.N. sanctions for commanding military units involved in repression of demonstrations. The international police agency said the notice was issued in response to a request by the Libya's National Transitional Council, which has assumed leadership of the North African nation. Niger, which borders Libya on the south and long benefited from Gadhafi's largesse, has said it would study the question. In the email, al-Saadi called the Interpol notice a "clear political decision to recognize the de jure authority of the National Transitional Council taken without appropriate regard." □

Catch Up Work:

New military chief faces economic challenges



From left, incoming Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, Vice President Joe Biden, President Barack Obama, and outgoing Joint Chiefs Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen, take part a ceremony at Ft. Myer in Arlington, Va.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

Continued from Front

Dempsey was a chief architect of the blueprints on maintaining and rebuilding the Army when he ran its Training and Doctrine Command before his elevation to Army chief of staff. Instead, Dempsey said in an interview, he realized he needed a better understanding of the economy, which seemed likely to define his tenure in the way that counterterrorism, counterinsurgency and

combat preoccupied his predecessors over the past decade. During Dempsey's term, a significant challenge will be how best to care for the military and protect the United States' national security interests with drastically fewer Defense Department dollars. So he traveled to his alma mater, West Point, entered the social sciences department and asked the professors to educate him about economics. "I have to confess, I paid no attention to

this as a cadet and have done nothing to increase my awareness of economic issues between age 22 and 59," he said. "And here I am, back as the prodigal son, saying, 'I should have paid attention.' The economic factors exist. They will inform my tenure as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. To use the old cliché: That is what it is." Dempsey acknowledged an emerging truth about the size of the American military during the coming years. □

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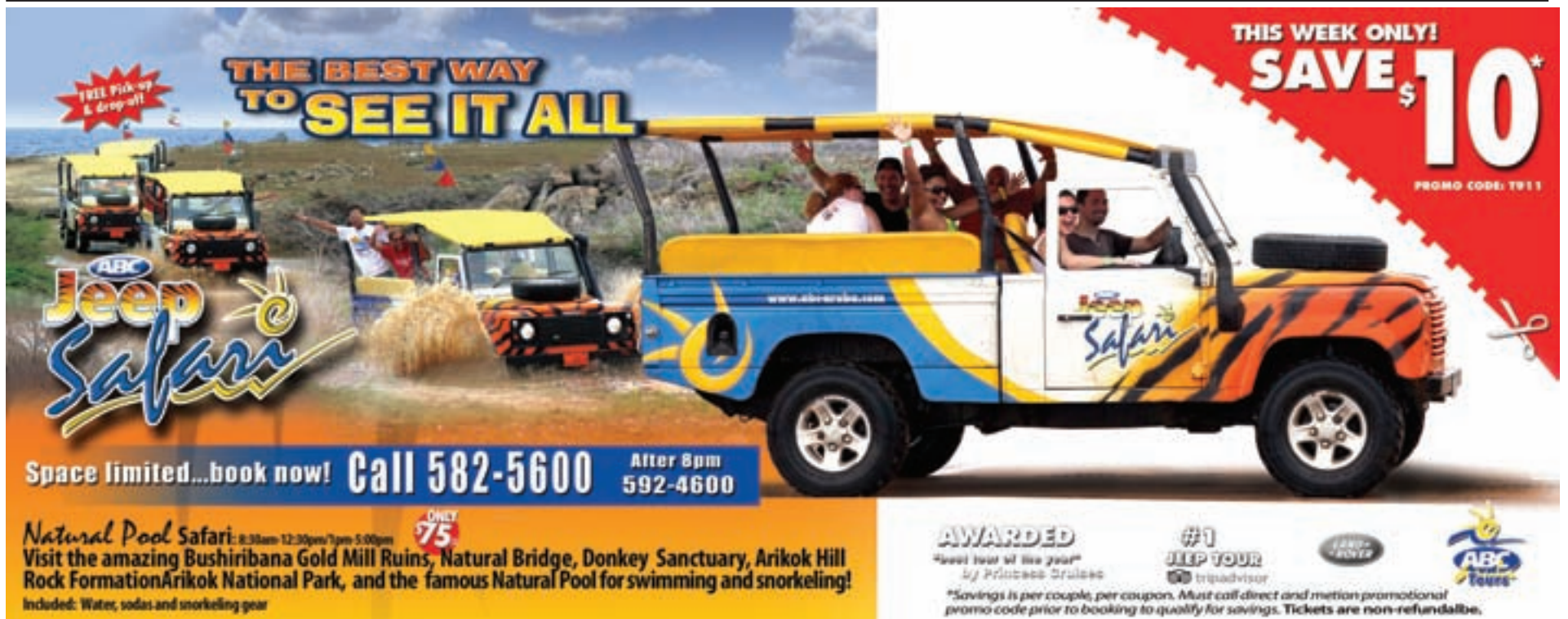
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Workers with the Pebble Mine project test drill in the Bristol Bay region of Alaska near the village of Iliamna, Alaska. The battle over a copper and gold mine near one of the world's premiere salmon fisheries is headed to the ballot in a vote next week that has turned a normally sleepy local election into a national environmental debate. (AP Photo/AI Grillo, File)

Alaska voters weighing in: salmon vs. gold

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — The battle over a copper and gold mine near one of the world's premier salmon fisheries is headed to the ballot in a vote next week that has turned a normally sleepy local election into a national environmental debate. Voters in southwest Alaska's Lake and Peninsula Borough are deciding whether to ban large-scale resource extraction activity, including mining, that would destroy or degrade salmon habitat. The measure is aimed squarely at Pebble Mine, the massive gold-and-copper prospect near the headwaters of Bristol Bay. The debate surrounding Pebble has attracted the attention of chefs, actor-director Robert Redford and big-name jewelers who have vowed not to sell

any gold coming from the project. The mine is a joint venture of Canada-based Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. and Anglo American plc of the United Kingdom. But Tuesday's vote will almost certainly not be the last word on how — or whether — the mine is built. "Among other things, the question in front of the Lake and Peninsula voters is about changes to land use that the Alaska attorney general says is unenforceable as a matter of law," said Mike Heatwole, a spokesman for Pebble Limited Partnership, the group promoting the mine project. Pebble Partnership sued to keep the "Save the Salmon" initiative off the ballot, arguing in part that the measure would improperly bypass the role of the local planning commission. □

Police release their side in clash of Wall Street videos

MOSI SECRET © 2011 New York Times NEW YORK — Equipped with cell phones and cameras, protesters from Occupy Wall Street have recorded and released several videos showing interactions between

One of the videos, released Sunday morning after hundreds of people were arrested Saturday for walking on the roadway of the Brooklyn Bridge, shows a police official warning protesters that if they crossed

testers were eventually arrested, and many claimed that the police had not warned them but instead tricked them, allowing them onto the bridge, and even escorting them partway across, only to trap



A demonstrator marching in the Occupy Wall Street protests, is escorted by a police officer from the Brooklyn Bridge in New York this weekend. After allowing marchers from the movement to claim the Brooklyn-bound car lanes of the Brooklyn Bridge and get partway across, the police cut the marchers off and plunged into the crowd and began making arrests around 4:15 p.m. Saturday.

(Robert Stolarik/The New York Times)

demonstrators and the New York Police Department that have raised their profile and won them sympathy in the battle for public opinion. Now the Police Department has staked out ground in that battle by releasing video of its own.

the roadway, rather than the pedestrian walkway, they would be charged with disorderly conduct. His remarks were met with chants of "Take the bridge." Seconds later, the protesters begin marching across the bridge, accompanied by cheers. About 700 pro-

them in orange netting after hundreds had entered. "There were claims police had not issued warnings," Paul J. Browne, chief spokesman for the police, said in an email. "In fact, warnings were issued and captured on video." □

One lawmaker's tax break is another's stimulus

RON NIXON
ERIC LICHTBLAU

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WASHINGTON — Plenty of lawmakers are against tax breaks and so-called loopholes. Unless, of course, they personally helped create them.

The Senate Republican leader, Mitch McConnell, for instance, says he is open to ending tax breaks for special interests.

But when it comes to a tax break he secured in 2008 for the owners of thoroughbred racehorses, he argues that the measure is essential for the protection of jobs in his home state of Kentucky.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., says he too wants to eliminate such breaks, except when it comes to beer. He

is one of the main supporters of a proposal that would cut taxes for small beer makers like the Samuel Adams Brewery in Boston.

And Rep. Paul D. Ryan, the Wisconsin Republican who leads the House Budget



Steve Hindy, owner of Brooklyn Brewery, that stood to save about \$400,000 a year if a tax break for brewers was approved, in the brewery in New York, Sept. 28, 2011. The disconnect between the lawmakers' words and deeds reflects the political hurdles that Congress and the White House face as they look to cut at least \$1.2 trillion from the national debt.

(Angel Franco/The New York Times)

Committee, has privately assured one beer industry group that he would support a second proposed tax break for brewers, even as he has distanced himself publicly from the measure, the beer group's chief operating officer said in an interview.

The disconnect between the lawmakers' words and deeds reflects the political hurdles that Congress and the White House face as they look to cut at least \$1.2 trillion from the nation-

al debt.

Talk of cutting tax breaks to raise money and reduce the debt has become mantra in Washington, but it threatens sacred ground: Such breaks are a favorite tool among both Republicans and Democrats to reward supporters and economic interests in their home states.

The 71,000-page tax code has become loaded with dozens of obscure but economically valuable tax breaks. □



This March 30, 2011 photo provided by the Michigan Department of Corrections shows Reed S. Berry, 26, of St. Joseph, Mich. On Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011, a federal judge in Grand Rapids, Mich., ordered Berry detained while he is being prosecuted on a charge of assaulting an FBI agent. The FBI says Berry is suspected of ties with foreign terrorist organizations and was under 24-hour surveillance when he tried to crash into an FBI agent's car on Sept. 9, 2011.

(AP Photo/Michigan Department of Corrections)

Terror suspect accused of trying to hit FBI agent

DAVID N. GOODMAN

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A federal judge in Michigan has ordered a man suspected of supporting terrorist groups held on allegations he tried to crash into the car of an FBI agent who was following him as part of heightened security for the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Reed S. Berry, 26, of St. Joseph, Michigan, was under surveillance because of his suspected terrorist links, according to an FBI affidavit filed in U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids.

The government has said the links include Internet communication with one or more groups involved in international terrorism.

Defense lawyer Elias Muawad said what the government has labeled terrorist links in court filings appear to be online speech protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution which guarantees freedom of speech. He also said his client, Berry, has been upset about being under investigation for months, subject to searches and barred from air travel.

"He was feeling like a caged person," Muawad told The Associated Press on Sunday.

According to the Sept. 23 complaint that charged Berry with assaulting a federal officer, the FBI executed a search warrant March 9 seeking evidence linking Berry to foreign terrorist groups. □



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US women accused of terror financing face trial today

AMY FORLITI

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — One of two Minnesota women accused of funneling money to a terrorist group in Somalia allegedly told potential donors to ignore charities and focus on "the jihad" and helped finance local Somali men's travel to their war-torn homeland to fight, prosecutors alleged in court filings.

The details hint at evidence the government claims it has against Amina Farah Ali, who is scheduled to stand trial Monday on multiple terror charges. Prosecutors said Ali, 35, and her co-defendant, 64-year-old Hawo Mohamed Hassan, were part of a "deadly pipeline" that routed money and fighters from the U.S. to Somalia.

The women, both U.S. citizens of Somali descent, were among 20 people charged in Minnesota's long-running federal investigations into recruiting and

financing for al-Shabab, which the U.S. considers a terrorist group with ties to al-Qaida. Investigators believe at least 21 men left Minnesota — home to the country's largest Somali community — to join al-Shabab.

Though others have pleaded guilty to related charges, the women are the first to go on trial.

Ali and Hassan maintain their innocence and claim they were collecting money and clothing for refugees. But prosecutors allege the women went door-to-door and held teleconferences to solicit donations for the fighters. In one of those recorded calls, investigators allege, Ali said to "forget about the other charities" and focus on "the jihad." In others, both women speak with the leader of a militia allied with al-Shabab, and Ali gets updates on the fighting.

Both women, of Rochester, Minnesota, are charged

with conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization. Ali also faces 12 counts of providing such support for allegedly sending more than \$8,600 to the group from September 2008 through July 2009. Hassan faces three counts of lying to the FBI.

Each terrorism count carries a 15-year maximum prison sentence. The trial is expected to last about two weeks. Investigators said they ran a wiretap on Ali's home and cellular phones for 10 months, intercepting roughly 30,000 calls, some of which were between the two women and others, and searched the trash outside Ali's apartment about 90 times, according to court documents and hearings in recent months. Defense attorneys have tried to keep some of that evidence out of trial. Dan Scott, Ali's lawyer, argued that some evidence would simply confuse the jury and



In this Aug. 5, 2010 file photo, Hawo Mohamed Hassan, left, and Amina Farah Ali, both of Rochester, Minn., leave the U.S. District Court after appearing at a hearing in St Paul, Minn. The two women are accused of funneling money to a terrorist group in Somalia, and are the first to go on trial in Minnesota's years-long federal investigation into the recruiting and financing of al-Shabab. Their trial begins today, Monday, Oct. 3, 2011.

(AP Photo/Craig Lassig, File)

pointed to prosecutors' al-Shabab. The Islamist al-Shabab militia is fighting to overthrow the U.N.-backed Somali government. □

In rural America, fears that beloved post office will close

STEVEN GREENHOUSE

© 2011 New York Times News

NEVILLE, Ohio — While checking for mail on her daily visit, Susan Reid regaled the town postmaster with news of wonderful swimming lessons enjoyed by her two children. Suddenly, her 9-year-old son began tumbling around, ever so playfully, on the floor, as if he were at home. Janet Blackburn, Neville's postmaster for 39 years, paid him no mind, wondering aloud: "Do you know what happened to the plaques on the war monument?"

Part of the town memorial to two dozen soldiers who died in the world wars, the brass plaques, Reid said with regret, had been badly damaged by a cleaning man using the wrong chemicals. Meanwhile, the door of the white clapboard

building opened and in walked Norma Bowling, a retired nurse's aide, carrying a plastic bag. "Here are the bell peppers I promised you," she said, handing the gift to Blackburn.

In Neville, and in many towns around the country these days, homespun conversations over post office counters are often turning from the latest gossip to a worrisome, newly pressing issue: The United States Postal Service has warned 3,700 communities in all 50 states that it is considering shuttering their local offices. "I just wish that they would leave our post office alone," Bowling said. "If I couldn't come here to get my mail every morning, I'd feel a big part of me has died."

Townpeople in places like Neville are fuming and fighting back, often writing letters to Washington

and enlisting members of Congress. Many say their post offices — Neville's was founded in 1816 — have served as a gathering spot, or the heart of the town, for generations, and that the closings would force residents, many of them elderly, to drive several miles to another post office.

If Neville's closes, the nearest one remaining would be in Moscow, four miles to the north. Other nearby towns, Higginsport and Chilo, immediately east of Neville, also face closings, prompting residents to ask why the Postal Service seems to be picking on these communities along the Ohio River. "You're throwing the little people, the rural people, under the bus," said Dan Burke, a marketing representative who goes to the Chilo post office once or twice a day to mail proposals to potential customers. □

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Long-secret shelter was a Cold War Camelot

LIZETTE ALVAREZ

© 2011 New York Times

PEANUT ISLAND, Fla. — A nuclear bomb shelter was a must-have in the 1950s and '60s. Magazines displayed backyard do-it-yourself versions. Castro Convertibles pitched its foldaway "jet beds" as bunker-ready. And a pair of publicity-savvy newlyweds actually spent their honeymoon inside one for 14 days.

President John F. Kennedy, who was facing a series of nail-biting face-offs with the Soviets, even recommended a fallout shelter for all Americans "as rapidly as possible" in an October 1961 speech. Two months later, Kennedy was presented with his own top-secret tropical bomb shelter off Palm Beach, Fla., on an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean.

Few even know it is here, but some area residents believe the bunker is a must-see attraction that could put Peanut Island, a manmade islet, on the map.

Termed the "Detachment Hotel" in documents, the fallout shelter here was built by Navy Seabees in less than two weeks at the end of December 1961 and sits a short stroll from a rambling colonial-style house that doubled as a U.S. Coast Guard station. Deftly camouflaged by trees, it was hard to spot. If people asked, they would be told it was a munitions depot, nothing more. Kennedy visited the bunker twice during a drill.

"The government never declared it existed until 1974," said Anthony Miller, a member of the executive



Tourists enter the bunker built in 1961 for President John F. Kennedy as a radiation-proof haven near his Palm Beach home, on Peanut Island, Fla. Few even know it is here, but some area residents believe that the bunker, part of the Palm Beach Maritime Museum, is a must-see attraction that could put Peanut Island on the map.

(Peter W. Cross/The New York Times)

board of the Palm Beach Maritime Museum, a non-profit organization that leases part of the land on Peanut Island and runs a charter school and gives tours of the bunker and the former Coast Guard station.

"But it was the worst-kept secret in Palm Beach."

With the Soviets intent on shipping nuclear warheads to nearby Cuba, Kennedy was assured a radiation-proof haven a mere 5-minute helicopter hop from his oceanfront winter home on millionaire's row in Palm Beach.

Peanut Island sits just between Palm Beach and its ritzy companion, Singer Island. It was intended to be used as a terminal for shipping peanut oil; that never happened, but the name stuck.

To ensure the president's safety during the summer, when he visited the Kennedy compound on Hyan-

nis Port, Mass., a sister shelter was built on Nantucket Island in 1961; it has never been open to the public. The Florida bunker, which fell into disrepair in the 1990s, was cleaned up and has been open for tours

since 1999, shortly after the museum leased the land. Buried under layers of concrete and built with quarter-inch-thick walls of steel and lead, the bunker looks like something out of the television show "Lost." Inside, to the left of a long corrugated tunnel, lies the decontamination shower, the first hint that the possibility of a nuclear showdown was not believed to be so far-fetched. Eleven months after the shelter was built, the Cuban Missile Crisis erupted.

The shelter is decorated as it was then, more or less, with replica pieces and a presidential seal. The decor is fittingly rustic, a far cry

"His mobile phone, back in the day," Miller said.

Shelves are stocked with giant tins of waterless hand cleaner (today's Purell), cans lined with lead that contained drinking water (no longer advisable), deodorant to clean clothes, petroleum jelly, castor oil and ample Army K-rations. Gas masks sat at the ready. An escape hatch lies at one end, just in case the Russians were coming.

In one corner, there is a rocking chair, a nod to Kennedy's bad back. But just how long the museum can keep operating the bunker is another matter.

The museum has been running at a loss for years now, Miller said, and the curators are embroiled in a decade-long tussle with a few Palm Beach County commissioners to open a full-service restaurant, as many museums do, to help them foot the bill. A proposal will be put forward again soon to the commission, although some of its members are leery about whether the restaurant plans to serve liquor. They are concerned for security on an island with no police force at the ready.

There are signs of detente, however, and Miller is hopeful.

Priscilla Taylor, a county commissioner who said she was open to a restaurant if concerns were addressed, said the issue might be re-considered.

"It's a beautiful facility," Taylor said. "The bunker has a story to tell, and they should be included in anything we do to promote tourism for the island." □



The presidential seal inside the bunker built in 1961 for President John F. Kennedy as a radiation-proof haven near his Palm Beach home, on Peanut Island, Fla., Sept. 20, 2011. Few even know it is here, but some area residents believe that the bunker, part of the Palm Beach Maritime Museum, is a must-see attraction that could put Peanut Island on the map.

(Peter W. Cross/The New York Times)

nis Port, Mass., a sister shelter was built on Nantucket Island in 1961; it has never been open to the public. The Florida bunker, which fell into disrepair in the 1990s, was cleaned up and has been open for tours

from Jacqueline Kennedy's sensibilities. There is room enough to hold 30 people on 15 metal bunk beds for 30 days, if not very comfortably. A Taylor Transmitter ham radio sits on a desk in a corner.

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Yemeni official: Al-Qaida bomb maker not killed



A security guard closes the gates at the Dar Al Hijrah Islamic Center in Falls Church, Va. U.S. air strikes in Yemen on Friday killed Anwar al-Awlaki, an American militant cleric from the mosque. Al-Qaida's top bomb maker in Yemen did not die in the drone strike a top Yemeni official said Sunday, a report that dashed the hopes of U.S. officials who thought the attack might have killed a trio of top al-Qaida personnel.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

KIMBERLY DOZIER
AP Intelligence Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Al-Qaida's top bomb maker in Yemen did not die in a drone strike on a convoy, a top Ye-

meni official said Sunday, a report that dashed the hopes of U.S. officials who thought the attack might have killed a trio of top al-Qaida personnel. The U.S. drone strike Friday

killed U.S.-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki and an American propagandist, Samir Khan, who published a slick English-language web magazine that spouted al-Qaida's anti-Western ideology. U.S. intelligence officials had said it appeared that bomb maker Ibrahim al-Asiri was among the dead. However, on Sunday the Yemeni official released a list of two others whose bodies had been identified and noted that al-Asiri was not one of them. The Yemeni official spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters. The Saudi-born al-Asiri, 29, who is of Pakistani descent, was tied to the so-called underwear bomb that was used in an attempt to bring down a Detroit-bound jetliner on Christmas Day in 2009. A Nigerian man has been charged in that attack. Al-Asiri was also believed to have been behind an intercepted pair of explosives-laden printers that were mailed from Yemen to the U.S. in 2010. There was no immediate of-

ficial word from the U.S. regarding the identities of the bodies. Al-Asiri has been described as a critical component of al-Qaida's activities in Yemen and his death would be a significant blow to the organization. Even before officials determined al-Asiri had not died in the strike, anti-terrorism experts noted that al-Qaida remained a powerful threat in Yemen. Months of political turmoil in the Mideast nation has helped the group grow stronger. □

Germany:

4 arrested before unity festivities

BERLIN (AP) — Four men were arrested on suspicion of obtaining guns before events marking the anniversary of German reunification, but officials said Sunday they found no weapons or evidence of plans for an attack. Three of the men were arrested Saturday in the Bonn area, and the fourth in Offenbach, near Frankfurt. Cologne police spokesman Carsten Moellers said that the men, aged between 22 and 27, were arrested because "we couldn't rule out that a crime was to be prepared"; and in view of the fact that celebrations marking the 21st anniversary of reunification are being held in Bonn on Monday. However, police said that they found no firearms or other dangerous objects during searches of the men's apartments and that they ruled out the men, whom they described as belonging to the "Islamist spectrum," posed any danger to the events in Bonn. The man arrested in Offenbach was released after a few hours. Cologne police said the other three would be freed late Sunday because of a lack of evidence to justify keeping them in custody, but they would remain under observation. □



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Syria opposition launches national council

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian dissidents on Sunday formally established a broad-based national council designed to overthrow President Bashar Assad's regime, which they accused of pushing the country to the brink of civil war. Syrians took to the streets in celebration, singing and dancing.

In a restive northern area, meanwhile, gunmen killed the 21-year-old son of Syria's top Sunni Muslim cleric in an ambush, the state-run news agency reported. The cleric, Grand Mufti Ahmad Badred-dine Hassoun, is considered a close supporter of Assad's regime and has echoed its claims that the unrest in Syria is the result of a foreign conspiracy.

The announcement of the Syrian National Council at a news conference in Istanbul appeared to be the most serious step yet to unify a deeply fragmented opposition. It follows five days of intense battles between the Syrian military and army defectors in the country's central region that raised the specter



Syrian army soldiers carry the coffins of their comrades who were killed in recent violence in the country, during their funeral procession at the military hospital in Homs, Syria. Syrian dissidents on Sunday formally established a broad-based national council designed to overthrow President Bashar Assad's regime, which they accused of pushing the country to the brink of civil war. Syrians took to the streets in celebration, singing and dancing.

(AP Photo/SANA)

of all-out armed conflict. Prominent Syrian opposition figure Bourhan Ghalion, who read out the founding statement of the SNC at the news conference in Istanbul, accused the regime of fomenting sectarian strife in Syria to maintain its grip on power.

"I think that this (Assad) regime has completely

lost the world's trust," he said. "The world is waiting for a united Syrian (opposition) that can provide the alternative to this regime, so that they can recognize it," he added.

"The council denounces the (regime's) policy of sectarian incitement ... which threatens national unity and is pushing the country to the brink of civil war," he said.

Syria's volatile sectarian di-

vide means that an armed conflict could rapidly escalate in scale and brutality. The Assad regime is dominated by the Alawite minority, an offshoot of Shi-ite Islam, but the country is overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim.

The opposition movement has until now focused on peaceful demonstrations, although recently some protesters have been reported to have taken up arms to defend themselves against military attacks. Army defectors have also been fighting government troops.

Sunday's killing of the mufti's son took place in the Saraqeb region of the restive northern Idlib province

as he left the university where he studied. He was shot in the chest and kidney and died later of his injuries. The news report gave no details on who might have been behind the killing.

In forming a national council, the Syrians are following in the footsteps of Libyan rebels, who formed a National Transitional Council during the uprising that ousted dictator Moammar Gadhafi. The Libyan council won international recognition and has now become the main governing body that runs the country. Groups of Syrians poured into the streets in southern and central regions of the country to celebrate the announcement. □

State media: Morocco dismantles new militant cell

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — An al-Qaida-linked militant cell planning attacks against foreign companies has been dismantled by Moroccan authorities, the state news agency reported.

The five-man group was operating in the cities of Casablanca and Sale and one of the members was related to a high-ranking al-Qaida operative in Iraq, the report quoting the national intelligence agency said late Saturday.

The group planned to attack "Western interests" and for-

eign companies in Morocco, as well as prison facilities, the report said, adding that the group was in touch with al-Qaida operatives in Iraq, Turkey, Yemen, Somalia and Syria.

Group members were trying to learn how to construct bombs through online contact with explosives experts, including the main defendant in the bombing attack against a Marrakech cafe, the report said.

Eight people are currently on trial for the April 28 attack against the Argana cafe, which killed 17 people, mostly tourists.

Moroccan authorities said members of a three-man cell based in Casablanca were arrested on Sept. 23 and had plans to attack police stations to secure weapons. The group also had contact with al-Qaida elements abroad, authorities said.

Al-Qaida's North African branch has rarely carried out attacks in Morocco. □

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Israel accepts proposal to restart peace talks

ISABEL KERSHNER

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JERUSALEM – Israel on Sunday formally accepted a proposal by the international powers to return to peace negotiations with the Palestinians, but any immediate resumption of talks appeared unlikely as the Israelis and Palestinians differed sharply over the letter and spirit of the proposal.

A senior Palestinian official said over the weekend that after three days of deliberations, the Palestinian leadership had decided not to return to talks unless Israel halted all settlement construction and agreed to clear terms of reference for the negotiations – requirements that were perhaps implied but not spelled out in the Sept. 23 statement of the so-called quartet of Middle East peacemakers, which is made up of the United States, the United Nations, the European Union and Russia.

After Israel's advancement last week of plans for new housing in a contested area, the Palestinian official, Nabil Shaath, told reporters in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Saturday that it was now necessary for the quartet to state clearly "what it understands the terms of reference to be," and then for the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, "to say, yes, we accept."

Despite weeks of intensive international diplomacy designed to deflect or minimize the impact of a contentious Palestinian bid for recognition of statehood and membership of the United Nations, the Israelis and Palestinians appear to be stuck at an impasse, just as they have been for the past year.

The last round of direct talks broke down soon after they started in September 2010

when a 10-month Israeli moratorium on construction of West Bank Jewish settlements expired. Israel says that the Palestinians have made a strategic decision to seek recognition of an outline of a state without the give and take of negotiations and that last time they waited nine months before agreeing to start talks. Asked about the possibility of an additional moratorium, Netanyahu told The Jerusalem Post last week, "We already gave at the office." The Palestinians, eager not to appear rejectionist, have pointed out what they say are the positive attributes of the quartet's statement. Shaath said it contained "very few



A Christian worshipper dances with flags during a prayer for peace in Jerusalem, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011. Israel on Sunday formally accepted a proposal by the international powers to return to peace negotiations with the Palestinians, but any immediate resumption of talks appeared unlikely as the Israelis and Palestinians differed sharply over the letter and spirit of the proposal. (AP Photo/Sebastian Scheiner)

flaws." The language of the statement was intentionally nonspecific in parts, employing codes meant to make it acceptable to both sides. But the Palestinians are demanding clarity and new rules of the game, saying it is such diplomatic ambiguity that has left the Palestinians without a state after nearly 20 years of intermittent talks.

The quartet's statement did not explicitly mention a settlement freeze, but it called on the two sides "to refrain from provocative actions" and cited their obligations under the 2003 "road map," a U.S.-backed peace plan that called for, among other things, a complete cessation of all settlement activity. □



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Police find bodies dumped near Acapulco

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP) — The bullet-riddled, bound bodies of seven men were dumped Sunday at a downtown bus stop in the Pacific resort town of Zihuatanejo, police said, as drug violence claimed at least 20 people this weekend along a stretch of coastal tourist destinations. A photograph published in the local newspaper El Diario de Zihuatanejo showed signed messages lying near or on top of the bloody, half-naked men, whose feet were tied to a street pole. The messages claimed to be from The Knights Templar, an offshoot of the pseudo-religious La Familia drug cartel. Drug gangs are known for leaving threatening messages at crime scenes. Guerrero state police said agents found the bodies early Sunday in the beach town, which is popular with both Mexican and U.S. tourists. Less than two



The body of a man lies face down next to a stream after he was believed to have been killed by gunmen in the Pacific resort city of Acapulco, Mexico. Violence has escalated in Acapulco as rival drug gangs battle for control of the region.

(AP Photo/Bernardino Hernandez)

weeks ago, 35 tortured bodies were dumped onto a main avenue in the Gulf coast seaport of Veracruz. Police did not suggest any motives for Sunday's crime, but drug cartels have been battling each other in Pacific coast resort cities. Police reported another homicide in Zihuatanejo hours before the bodies were dumped. In Acapulco, just to the south of Zihuatanejo, 10 men and

two women were killed in separate attacks Saturday and early Sunday, including one in which gunmen stormed a bar and shot a couple dead, police said in a statement. Three other young men were gunned down inside a taxi cab on a popular avenue of Acapulco Saturday, police said Sunday in a news release. Also, two gunmen shot to death a 22-year-old man near a Walmart store on the beachside avenue Costera Miguel Aleman on Saturday. Authorities said they don't know whether the attacks are related. Drug-related crime has increased in Acapulco and other cities in the southwestern state of Guerrero since the arrest of Edgar "La Barbie" Valdez, a Texas native captured last year who is suspected of trying to seize control of the Beltran Leyva cartel following the death of gang leader Arturo Beltran Leyva. Mexican officials have said that the remnants of the Beltran Leyva gang appear to be fighting the Knights Templar and the Zetas cartel in Guerrero. In addition, there is evidence that Mexico's most-wanted drug lord, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, is moving to take back strongholds of his former allies, the Beltran Leyva cartel, the officials said. Guerrero police chief Ramon Almonte told The Associated Press that agents have found posters at homicide scenes with threatening messages signed by the four cartels plus smaller, local gangs that work as enforcement wings. □

Egypt military head denies orders to shoot protesters

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's military ruler on Sunday defended his testimony last month in the trial of ousted President Hosni Mubarak, denying that the army was ever ordered to shoot protesters during the uprising earlier this year. Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi testified in Mubarak's trial on Sept. 24 under a total media blackout. Leaks of his testimony suggested that he sought to absolve Mubarak of any responsibility for the killing of nearly 850 protesters during the 18-day uprising that forced him to step down on Feb. 11. Mubarak is charged with complicity in the killings. If convicted, he could face the death penalty. In comments carried Sunday by Egypt's official news agency, Tantawi said: "My testimony in the case of the killings of the protesters was the testimony of a sincere man and a soldier of 40 years, one for God and Egypt. ... We were not ordered to open fire at citizens and we will never do that." His remarks, however, did not address the question of whether the police and other internal security forces that were behind the deadly crackdown on protesters had received orders to shoot. The army, too, was called out on the streets during the uprising, but remained neutral. Tantawi was Mubarak's defense minister for some 20 years, and was widely believed to be blindly loyal to the former leader. □

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Afghanistan urges Pakistan to take steps for peace

DEB RAHIM RIECHMANN FAIEZ KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) —

The Afghan government urged neighboring Pakistan on Sunday to take concrete steps to help end the Taliban insurgency and use its influence to bring the militants to direct peace talks. The appeal follows accusations that Pakistan, through its historical ties with some of the militant groups, has played an active role in supporting attacks across the border on U.S. and Afghan targets — a charge it denies. The allegations against the country and the calls for its help reveal a central quandary in trying to end the decade of fighting that began with the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks: Pakistan, even if it has ties to groups behind the insurgency, would be of central importance in any effort to bring about a negotiated peace. Afghan leaders, however, are growing impatient. "Afghanistan has invested a great amount of goodwill and political capital to create an atmosphere of trust and confidence and to try to improve relations with Pakistan over the past three years," Foreign Ministry spokesman Janan Mosazai told reporters in Kabul. "Unfortunately, we have not been witness to the type of concrete progress that we were expecting — that was promised to us by our brothers and sisters in Pakistan," he said. In particular, Afghanistan wants its neighbor's help in the "facilitation of direct negotiations with the Taliban leadership and with any other insurgent leaders who are prepared to join the Afghan national reconciliation process," Mosazai said. Pakistan's northwest

tribal region serves as a haven for insurgents fighting Afghan and U.S. forces across the border as well as the Pakistani government. Pakistan has ties with some of the militant groups dating back to the war in the 1980s against the Soviets in Afghanistan. Afghan and U.S. officials, long frustrated at Pakistan's failure to wage an all-out battle against militants on its soil, have recently accused Islamabad of supporting attacks across the border, including an hours-long assault on the U.S. Embassy last month in Kabul. Reflecting the deepening frustration, Afghan President Hamid Karzai said over the weekend that he was giving up on trying to talk to the Taliban directly and that the key to ending the war is mediation by Pakistan. At the same time, Karzai has suspended a series of meetings between Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States because of the fallout over accusations that Pakistan is playing a double game. The Afghan government said it had evidence that Pakistan played a role in the Sept. 20 assassination of former Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani. Karzai's office said a special commission investigating Rabbani's death had concluded the attack was planned in Quetta, the Pakistani city where key Taliban leaders are based. The delegation also said the primary assailant was a Pakistani citizen. Interior Minister Bismullah Khan Mohammadi said Saturday in an Afghan parliamentary session that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency was involved in the killing. Pakistan denied the allegation Sunday, calling



Afghan men hold an anti-Pakistan banner during a rally, protesting against Pakistan's interference in Afghanistan, in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011. The Afghan government urged neighboring Pakistan on Sunday to take concrete steps to help end the Taliban insurgency and use its influence to bring the militants to direct peace talks. (AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

it "baseless" and "irresponsible." It said the evidence given to Pakistan consisted of the confession of an Afghan national, Hamidullah Akundzadeh, accused of masterminding Rabbani's assassination. "Instead of making such irresponsible statements, those in positions of authority in Kabul, should seriously deliberate as to why all those Afghans who are favorably disposed toward peace and toward Pakistan are systematically being removed from the scene and killed," said Pakistan's Foreign Ministry in a written statement. Meanwhile, the members of the High Peace Council that Rabbani had headed met with Karzai and asked for a full review of the process. They said they do not want to waste time trying to reconcile with insurgents on the Pakistani side of the border who have not renounced violence, according to a presidential statement

and members of the council. That would be a major shift for the council, which was formed to try to find a way to get the Taliban leadership to the negotiating table. "Those groups

that are hiding in Pakistan, they are sending terrorists at us. So how can we have peace with those people?" said Ismail Qasemyar, one of the members who met with Karzai. □

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Illegal students face obstacles even after college

ERIKA NIEDOWSKI

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (AP) — When Rhode Island became the thirteenth state to allow cheaper in-state tuition for illegal immigrants at public colleges, supporters heralded the move as one that would give students the kind of advanced education they need to succeed in the work force.

But students who are not here legally may still face a major obstacle even with the benefit of a college degree: Many have no immediate pathway to legal status and, under current federal immigration law, employers cannot legally hire them.

“I know of students who have graduated magna cum laude and top honors in their colleges, but right now they’re working minimum wage in restaurants,” said Antonio Albizures-Lopez, 20, who came to the U.S. from Guatemala when he was 1.

Albizures-Lopez, who is pursuing legal residency, says the best solution is passage of federal legislation, known as the DREAM Act, which provides a pathway to legal residency for college students.

The Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, which oversees the state’s three public higher education institutions, unanimously approved in-state tuition for illegal immigrants last week, effective in the fall of 2012. The General Assembly had failed repeatedly to take action on legislation that’s been intro-



College student Jasmine Oliver, of Warwick, R.I., top left, and Javier Gonzalez, of Pawtucket, R.I., top right, display a banner and shout their support for allowing illegal immigrants to pay in-state tuition rates while attending public colleges in the state, during a Board of Governors of Higher Education meeting on the campus of the Community College of Rhode Island, in Warwick, R.I. But research varies on the effects of resident tuition rates for illegal immigrants, including on enrollment, and students may still face a tough road even if they graduate with a college degree: Without passage of the DREAM Act or other federal immigration reform, illegal immigrant students have no pathway to legal status, and it remains illegal for employers to hire them.

(AP Photo/Steven Senne, File)

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Eleven states — California, Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Utah, and Washington — have laws allowing the children of illegal immigrants to receive in-state rates if they meet certain requirements, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Oklahoma allows in-state tuition for the children of illegal immigrants under a state Board of Regents policy.

Gov. Lincoln Chafee, in urging the Board of Governors to adopt the change, said it would allow more Rhode Islanders to attend college, help build a stronger work

force and boost an economy that is among the nation’s most troubled.

Research varies on how much resident tuition rates for illegal immigrants increase enrollment. A 2010 paper co-authored by Aimee Chinn, an economist at the University of Houston, did not find a sizeable increase overall for 18- to -24-year-olds in the 10 states studied, although it did find that Mexican men in their 20s attended at modestly higher rates. It also found that even in-state tuition may still be too expensive, especially since illegal immigrant students do not qualify for federal education aid.

force after they graduate, even with a degree that traditionally makes it easier to get the kind of high-skill, high-paying job not available to those who finish only high school.

“Even with a college degree, there hasn’t been a more general immigration reform that would enable these kids to get a job once they have their degree,” said Chinn.

Amanda Pereira, 18, came to the U.S. illegally at the age of 6 from Brazil with her family.

“In a way, it is going to be another dead end,” she said. “But in a way it is a help, because at least they got through another four years and got their education, so they can find ways to possibly get legalized through an employer.”

The Brandeis University freshman was granted legal status — after more than a decade pursuing it — last spring, but is continuing to advocate for illegal immigrant students.

“We do need to continue pushing for the DREAM Act,” she said.

That federal legislation — the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act — would provide a pathway to legal residency for illegal-immigrant students providing they meet certain requirements. A December study by UCLA estimated that such students could contribute anywhere from \$1.4 trillion to \$3.6 trillion to the nation’s economy over the course of their careers, depending on how many ultimately obtain citizenship. □



PRIME MINISTER MIKE EMAN INVITED TO GIVE LECTURE AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

TITLE: SMART GROWTH AND WELLBEING, A Small Scale Example of Transforming Purpose

On the 14th of October Aruba's Prime Minister Michiel Godfried "Mike" Eman, in a lecture at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, will discuss the trend set by a small island nation as it successfully meets the challenges of the global economy on new terms.

Prime Minister Eman is undertaking transforming leadership in Aruba: Social-economic progress based on creating a national consensus (Social Dialogue) that supports smart growth, capable of addressing the enormous challenge of delivering lasting prosperity. Going to 40% alternative energy, investing money and time in shared goals, assets and infrastructures, geared towards ecological transformation, increased energy and resource efficiency, renewable and low-carbon technologies and infrastructures, public assets, climate adaptation, ecological enhancement. A shift from a long period of capacity expansion in hotels towards long term gain investments in city and neighborhood renewal and citizen engagement and wellbeing.

The approach is "a nice Aruba for its citizens to live is a nice Aruba to share with visitors". A renovation of the sense of public space, of public institutions, of common purpose. Schools, green space, parks, recreation centers, sports facilities, libraries, museums, public transportation, local markets, retreats and community festivals. With national programs "Bo

Aruba" (your Aruba) and "Bo Bario" (your neighborhood) Aruba is setting physical and social building blocks for enhanced quality of life and a new vision of social participation. Setting a proper balance between these vital dimensions of what it means to be human. A balance that has been lost in our lives, in our institutions and in our economies.

Prime Minister Mike Eman will make the point that we've seen how faulty economics drives and is driven by distorted social logic. But we've also seen that a different economics is achievable. A better and fairer social logic lies within our grasp. Neither ecological limits nor human nature constrain the possibilities here: only our capacity to believe in and work for change and be successful when working with the strengths of our nature.

As in other countries, the economic collapse led to political upheaval. After years of gridlock and divided government, the 2009 parliamentary elections swept the pro-reform Aruban Peoples Party (AVP) into power, handing the party a majority of seats. How the AVP used its mandate for change is where the lesson begins.

From the outset, the AVP realized it could not force change on its own. Every reform that the AVP offered was done in a spirit of accommodation with those opponents willing to put harsh partisanship aside. Stabilizing tourism, the



Prime Minister Mike Eman

economic engine of Aruba, was the first order of business. With the new government demonstrating a commitment to infrastructure improvements, KLM and Carnival were willing to return to the island – an important first step in reinforcing its status as an international destination.

While the government rebuilt its external relationships, it also worked internally to stabilize its pension system, reorganize public services, invest in health care and cut wasteful spending by empowering government workers to offer ideas for innovation and cost savings.

A major urban renewal effort was launched to rebuild the two main urban retail areas in Oranjestad and San Nicolas, modernize the island's road system, construct parks and public areas, and build a new light rail system. This strategic part-

nership search and the 1.2 billion Aruban florins (\$670 million U.S.) stimulus program and positive atmosphere is creating renewed investment activity and confidence, and returning important economic activity such as from Valero back to the island. It's also putting citizens to work and revitalizing Aruba as a tourist destination. The short-term and long-term benefits will repay the investment many times over.

But Aruba also knew that infrastructure improvements alone would not be enough. It would also need to bring innovation and diversification by championing sustainable energy technology. To that end, Aruba has begun to develop an international research facility that will capitalize on the country's abundant water, wind and sun. Already the island has hosted a global en-

vironmental conference attended by leading scholars and activists, and more such conferences are on the way. Eman will argue at Harvard that these reforms are scalable to a country of any size. The keys are political compromise, investment in infrastructure and innovation, and budget and tax reform. Aruba is maintaining its strong bond rating in a region that has been rocked by the global recession, and its efforts are paying off. Pursuit of happiness and wellbeing are the cornerstone in the Aruba approach. Prime Minister Eman will point at that natural inspiration Aruba has for this approach. "When a country finds itself adrift, the lesson of the Divi Divi tree in Aruba is to work with your strengths, respect the forces of nature, stay pointed in the right direction and ride the winds of change". □

Café the Plaza celebrates 20th anniversary of success

ORANJESTAD - A true party atmosphere prevailed at Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace last Saturday evening, when regulars of the popular restaurant and bar came to congratulate Hans Nooter and Harry Koeman with 20 years of success. New visitors enjoyed the festive evening as well, of course.

There was quite a lot to do: first of all there was a Dino Jump for the kids and a cart outside with Dutch fish specialties and an outside bar that catered to the many music lovers who came to listen to the rousing salsa numbers of Tsunami, one of Aruba's best-loved bands.

The entire month of October will be festive, gearing up to the occasion of the Royal Visit to Aruba of Queen Beatrix and crown prince Willem-Alexander and his lovely wife Maxima: ev-



ery Saturday there will be live music, starting with the PM Band next week

(October 8), Acoustic Soul on October 15 and Equator on the 22nd.



Balashi Chill is on special during these Saturdays. Congratulations to Café

the Plaza and its happy owners and crew. □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores.

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Wedding Bells at Amazonia Churrascaria



PALM BEACH -- Vanessa A. Jansen and Etienne G Chatlein got married on Sept 29th, celebrating their nuptials at Amazonia Churrascaria, surrounded by more than 40 family members and friends. The marriage was witnessed by godmother Rhona Dijkhoff and godfather Edward Geerman, who report the love birds truly deserve eternal happiness and marital bliss.

It was a perfect party, as guests enjoyed the distinct cooking style of grilled meats, deliciously combined with a fresh and varied salad bar over cocktails and wine, in the private bar room at Amazonia Churrascaria, served Rodizio style, continuously, by the restaurant's friendly waiters and carvers. □

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Chef Pacheco is ready to prepare the Sole Mare Special, a must for seafood lovers

ORANJESTAD – Take a culinary trip to Italy without ever leaving Aruba and enjoy delicious home cooked Italian Food paired with excellent Italian wines. Now more than ever, you cannot forego the opportunity of savoring the succulence of lobster in all its glory because during the whole month of October, Sole Mare Ristorante Italiano will be having its Lobster Festival.

Choose your live lobster at the restaurant together with your desired style or recipe. And if you want something particular Chef Pacheco and his staff are ready to do their best and satisfy your craving. Try a classic like the Lobster Thermidor or maybe a Ravioli filled with lobster in vodka sauce. A must try for seafood lovers is the Sole Mare Special, a dish with jumbo shrimp, the largest on the island, mussels, clams, calamari, and the Caribbean Lobster served over a bed of spaghetti.

Sole Mare Ristorante Italiano is a traditional family restaurant, within walking distance of the high-rise resorts. This stylish Italian eat-

ery has never veered from its opening-day philosophy of serving delicious home-cooked Italian food, with rich, fresh flavors, at reasonable prices and in hearty portions, delivering an authentic slice of Italy, to Palm Beach, Aruba.

Chef Rafael Pacheco has decades of experience after completing his studies at the Nazareno de Carpi in Italy. He remained there for a number of years while gaining a lot of experience working at Trattoria Le Cristane and Trattoria de Felice. Sole Mare is a well known name within the Aruban culinary scene and has many loyal visitors from all over the world. People make of the restaurant part of their activities plan while on the island and has developed a family like connection with many of them.

"Excellent! Food and service are the best. Every year that I come to Aruba I dine there at least twice and tell as many people as I can to go there. For me it's like coming home," Louis Fusaro from United States wrote.

Sole Mare also offers everyday of the week, their

fabulous Early Bird Special for \$25, daily from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Early Bird Menu includes your option from Insalate Mista or Homemade Minestrone followed by Linguini Fruitti Di Mare or Fresh Filet of Grouper, with a side of pasta or vegetables or Chicken Parmigiana, with a side of pasta or vegetables and Caramel Flan or Ice cream for dessert, Coffee or Tea.

If you prefer to order a la carte, you may enjoy chef's specialties such as Spaghetti Al Formaggio Parmigiana, an authentic Italian dish flamed with Whiskey tableside or the decadent Rib Eye Pizzaiola, USDA certified Angus beef, sautéed with extra virgin olive oil, tomatoes, garlic, and gaeta black olives.

Kids will be delighted too with a kids' menu featuring Rigatoni with Meat Sauce, Spaghetti with Meatballs, Fettuccini Alfredo, Meat Lasagna, Mozzarella Sticks, Cheese Ravioli or Chicken Fingers with French Fries.

Sole Mare is located on the Palm Beach highway #23, in Noord. For reservations please call 586-0007 or visit



Ravioli filled with lobster in a vodka sauce



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www.solemarearuba.com. The restaurant has ample parking and you will be served by a experienced and friendly staff. There is no service charge added

to your bill. Take out service is fast and efficient with no service charge and the restaurant kitchen is open seven days a week until 11 p.m. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

LIONS, TIGERS

Detroit Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson celebrates a 23-yard touchdown against the Dallas Cowboys during second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, in Arlington, Texas.



Detroit Tigers relief pitcher Jose Valverde (46) celebrates the Tigers' 5-3 victory over the New York Yankees with first baseman Miguel Cabrera, right, at the conclusion of Game 2 of baseball's American League Division Series at Yankee Stadium in New York, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011.



Chicago Bears' Devin Hester (23) gives a stiff-arm to Carolina Panthers' Olindo Mare (10) on the way to a 69-yard punt return for a touchdown in the first half of an NFL football game in Chicago, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011.

...OH MY!

Kevin Na wins in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Kevin Na won the Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour title, hitting three birdies near the end of his round to pull away for a two-stroke victory over Nick Watney. Na closed with a 6-under 65 for a 23-under 261 total at TPC Summerlin in the Fall Series opener.

His family moved from South Korea to the United States when he was eight and he started playing golf a year later.

Watney, a two-time winner this year, shot a 67.

Na, tied for the lead with Watney entering the round, sealed his victory with a 42-foot birdie putt on the par-3 17th. Na and Watney both parred the par-4 18th.

The winner had five birdies and a bogey on the front nine to reach 21 under. He parred the first four holes on the back nine, then dropped a stroke on the



Kevin Na reacts after sinking a putt on the 18th green to win the Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open golf tournament, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, in Las Vegas. Na finished 23 under par for the tournament, two strokes better than Nick Watney.

Associated Press

par-3 14th to fall into a tie with Watney.

Na pulled ahead with his birdie on the par-4 15th and both players birdied the par-5 16th, before Na holed another birdie on the 17th to seal the win.

Tommy Gainey and Paul Goydos had 66s to tie for third at 18 under, and David Hearn (65), Carl Pettersson (68), Jhonattan Vegas (68), Tim Herron (69) and Spencer Levin (68) followed at 17 under. □

Kenny Perry wins first Champions Tour title

CARY, North Carolina (AP) — After nearly withdrawing following his sister's death Saturday night, Kenny Perry won the SAS Championship on Sunday for his first Champions Tour title. Kay Perry died Saturday night after a long fight with breast cancer. She died two years to the day after the death of their mother, Mildred Perry, also to cancer. "When I heard the news last night, it was a long night," Perry said. "I didn't sleep a lot, thought about just getting on a plane and heading home. "But Dad was great. He called me, he said, 'Son, you just need to go out there and represent Kay today.'"

He did, making a 30-foot eagle putt on the par-5 17th en route to a 2-under 70 and a one-stroke victory over Jeff Sluman and John Huston. "I was very calm all day. I had no nerves," Perry said. "Normally, I'm a little jumpy, a little jittery, tense. Today, I was just — I felt like I was on a low. I was really down. I was kind of depressed, and my swing was in rhythm. It wasn't fast, and I had great control of the golf ball." The 51-year-old Perry, a 14-time winner on the PGA Tour, had an 11-under 205 total — the highest winning score in tournament history — on the Prestonwood Country Club course.

Sluman also finished with a 70, and Huston shot a 71.

Perry rallied after making a double-bogey 7 on the 12th hole after hitting his approach shot into the water. He also had a double bogey in the first round.

"Normally, I get pretty frustrated and pretty upset over that type of deal, and they get to me inside," said Perry, the fifth first-time winner this year. "I was able to just plod along, just play along." □



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Kurt Busch wins at Dover

DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer

DOVER, Del. (AP) — Kurt

Busch stormed into contention for a second Cup championship, holding off fellow Chase drivers Jimmie Johnson and Carl Edwards to win Sunday at Dover International Speedway.

Edwards and Kevin Harvick share the points lead in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship standings after three rounds. Harvick is seeded first because of a tiebreaker.

Round 4 of the Chase is at Kansas Speedway.

Busch pulled away from Johnson after a late restart to win his second race of the season. Johnson, the five-time defending champion, was second and Edwards was third. Busch moved from ninth to fourth in the standings, only nine points out of first. "To win a Sprint Cup race in the Chase, this is what it's all about," Busch said. Chase drivers Matt Kenseth and Kyle Busch were fifth and sixth. Harvick was 10th.

Tony Stewart lost the points lead he built after winning the first two Chase races and finished 25th.

Only 15 points separate the top eight drivers.

The 400-mile race only tightened the leaderboard and no driver has emerged as clear-cut favorite.

Johnson's reign was considered by some to be on the ropes after finishing 10th and 18th in the first two Chase races. But his strong finish on a track where he usually dominates moved him only 13 points behind the leaders with seven races remaining.

"Are we out of this?" said Johnson, rubbing his chin with a smile.

Not yet. Not by a long shot. Non-Chase drivers filled four of the top-10 spots. Kasey Kahne was fourth, AJ Allmendinger was seventh, Clint Bowyer eighth, and Marcos Ambrose ninth.

Busch made his move off the final restart with 43 laps, leaving Johnson behind. Johnson led a race-high 157 laps.

"Giving up a win by not getting a good restart, I'll think about it tonight," Johnson said. "But big-picture wise, we'll take it."

The winning move against Johnson made the victory more meaningful for Busch. Two of the sport's top drivers have developed a long-simmering

rivalry over the years. It reached a boiling part at Richmond when Busch called Johnson a "five-time chump."

"To beat your arch nemesis, that's just icing on the cake. That's pretty sweet," Busch said.

Edwards, who won the Dover Nationwide race on Saturday, dominated most of the race until a pit road speeding penalty cost him a lap.

Without that infraction, Edwards just might have won the race and made it a weekend sweep.

"I definitely took myself out of position to fight for the win by doing that," Edwards said. "It's something that's painful."

Busch opened the Chase with a solid sixth at Chicagoland Speedway, but struggled at New Hampshire and finished 22nd. He No. 22 Dodge started second at Dover and he carried that over into Victory Lane — and up the standings.

Busch, the 2004 champion, won his 24th career race and for the first time at Dover. "We've got such a long way to go in this Chase," Busch said. "That's what we're really focused on." □



Kurt Busch celebrates in victory lane after he won the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Dover International Speedway in Dover, Del., Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011.

Associated Press

Yankees rally fizzles in Game 2 loss to Tigers

By **MIKE FITZPATRICK**
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — This is no time for the New York Yankees to stop hitting. Justin Verlander is on deck for Detroit, and he figures to pitch more than one inning. Unable to finish off a ninth-inning rally in the rain, New York was beaten by Max Scherzer and the Tigers 5-3 on Sunday, tying their best-of-five American League playoff at a game apiece. The Yankees tried to rally late on solo homers by Curtis Granderson and Nick Swisher. Jorge Posada hit his first postseason triple in the ninth and Detroit catcher Alex Avila slipped on a slick on-deck circle, preventing him from catching a foul popup for the final out.

That seemed to be just the break the Yankees needed to complete a stirring comeback from a four-run deficit. But closer Jose Valverde, perfect in 49 save chances during the regular season, retired Robinson Cano on a grounder with two on to end it. Derek Jeter made a costly error at shortstop for the Yankees and struck out twice in key spots in the late innings. Scherzer silenced Mark Teixeira, Alex Rodriguez and the rest of a New York lineup that scored nine runs in the series opener. The right-hander, moved up from Game 3 to Game 2 when the opener was suspended by rain, held the Yankees hitless until Cano's soft sin-



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Max Scherzer follows through on a pitch during the third inning of Game 2 in baseball's American League Division Series between the Tigers and the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium in New York, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011.

Associated Press

gle in the sixth. The series shifts to Detroit on Monday night, with no day off for travel because Game 1 was called Friday and then completed Saturday. Verlander (24-5) gets the ball at spacious Comerica Park, looking to follow up on a dominant regular season that earned him the pitching version of a Triple Crown and a place in the MVP discussion. Better bring those bats. Because if the Yankees don't win Game 3, the season rides on the unreliable arm of A.J. Burnett in Game 4. The good news for New York is that its own pitching star, CC Sabathia, will be back on the mound Monday as well. He and Verlander squared off Friday in a highly anticipated matchup that lasted only 1½ innings. Aces, interrupted. Now, they meet again. The Yankees, however, want to give Sabathia more support than they offered Freddy Garcia, who held Detroit in check for 5 1-3 innings. He gave up a two-

run homer to Miguel Cabrera that barely cleared the right-field fence in the first.

The Tigers cashed in on Jeter's throwing error in the sixth, chasing Garcia with RBI singles by Cabrera and Victor Martinez that made it 4-0.

Teixeira went 0 for 4 and never hit the ball out of the infield. A banged-up Rodriguez was booed after an eighth-inning popup dropped him to 0 for 8 in the series, and it doesn't look as though he can turn on hard stuff inside with any authority.

The first hit Scherzer allowed was a bloop single with one out in the sixth by Cano, who had a grand slam and six RBIs in the opener Saturday night. New York never got going again until the Tigers' bullpen took over. Even the early sunshine didn't help the Yankees, who went 44-12 in day games this season — the best winning percentage (.786) for a major league team since 1900.

What began as a beautiful afternoon turned messy in the seventh, when rain sent fans scurrying for cover as the Yankees tried to rally. A leadoff walk and Posada's single chased Scherzer, who yielded only two hits in six-plus innings. He struck out five and walked four. Russell Martin flied out and pinch-hitter Eric Chavez struck out against Joaquin Benoit, who threw a called third strike past Jeter to end the inning. Jeter, never animated when he argues, didn't like the call and stayed at home plate for a long discussion with umpire Eric Cooper.

Jeter also fanned against Valverde for the second out in the ninth. Swisher hit a leadoff homer that inning and Andruw Jones had a sacrifice fly.

Cabrera, one of the game's best hitters, punched a breaking ball to right with a runner on in the first. In almost any other ballpark, it would have been a double into the corner. At the new Yankee Stadium, it cleared the short porch just to the left of the 314-foot sign. □

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Lions comeback to beat Cowboys and remain perfect

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Matthew Stafford saw his defense start wiping out a 24-point deficit with interceptions returned for touchdowns midway through the third quarter, then he and Calvin Johnson took over from there, leading the Detroit Lions to a stunning 34-30 victory over the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday.

A week after turning a 20-point halftime deficit into an overtime win, the Lions provided further proof they're a legitimate contender this season.

Detroit is 4-0 and has won an NFL-best eight straight games. This also was its franchise-record fifth straight road win, avenging a loss here last November that had been its NFL-record 26th straight road loss.

Tony Romo and the Cowboys (2-2) continued to show there's no lead and no deficit too big for them. They blew a 14-point fourth-quarter lead for the first time in franchise history in the opener.

***Packers 49, Broncos 23**

At Green Bay, Wisconsin, Aaron Rodgers threw for a career-high 408 yards, tied a personal best with four touchdown passes and ran for two more scores as Green Bay remained unbeaten.

Charles Woodson ran an interception back for a touchdown for the Packers (4-0), who join resurgent NFC North rivals Detroit as the only undefeated teams left in the NFL.

Eric Decker caught a pair of touchdowns from Kyle Orton for Denver (1-3). Orton threw for 273 yards with three touchdowns and three interceptions.

***Bengals 23, Bills 20**

At Cincinnati, rookie quarterback Andy Dalton shook off a horrid first half and led

his first comeback victory, culminating in Mike Nugent's 43-yard field goal as time ran out against previously unbeaten Buffalo.

Dalton threw a touchdown pass and ran 3 yards on a draw play, tying it with 4:09 to go. He scrambled for a first down on the winning drive and Nugent ended it with his third field goal in front of the smallest crowd of Paul Brown Stadium's history.

The Bengals (2-2) overcame a 17-3 halftime deficit to end a 10-game losing streak against Buffalo (3-1).

***49ers 24, Eagles 23**

At Philadelphia, the 49ers surged back from a 20-point deficit for the victory. Vick wasn't hampered by his bruised right hand, throwing for a career-high 416 yards and two touchdowns and rushing for 75 yards. But Philly's defense fell apart in the final 30 minutes, and Frank Gore capped a 77-yard drive with a 12-yard TD run with 3 minutes remaining.

Former Eagles kicker David Akers, who left for San Francisco as a free agent this summer, kicked the decisive extra point. His replacement, rookie Alex Henery, missed from 39 and 33 yards in the final period.

Philadelphia (1-3) has been outscored 36-0 in the fourth quarter of its last three games, all losses. The 49ers (3-1) are on top of the NFC West in Jim Harbaugh's rookie season as coach.

***Texans 17, Steelers 10**

At Houston, Arian Foster rushed for 155 yards and the winning touchdown in the fourth quarter as Houston overcame an injury to All-Pro Andre Johnson for the win. Johnson left in the second quarter with a right hamstring injury and did not return though he was back on the sideline late to



Detroit Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson makes a 2-yard touchdown reception as Dallas Cowboys cornerback Terence Newman defends during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, in Arlington, Texas. Cowboys won 34-30.

Associated Press.

watch Houston (3-1) finish off the injury-plagued Steelers (2-2). Ben Roethlisberger was under pressure all day and was sacked five times behind an offensive line missing two regular starters. The quarterback injured his left leg late in the game and left the stadium wearing a walking boot.

The Steelers lost running back Rashard Mendenhall (hamstring), linebacker James Harrison (eye) and defensive end Aaron Smith (foot) during the game.

Foster, the 2010 NFL rushing champion, finally looked healthy after weeks of nursing a left hamstring strain.

***Patriots 31, Raiders 19**

At Oakland, California, Tom Brady bounced back from a four-interception performance by throwing for 226 yards, two touchdowns and committing no turnovers.

Wes Welker caught nine passes for 158 yards and a score, BenJarvus Green-Ellis and Stevan Ridley adding

rushing touchdowns and the Patriots (3-1) played a mostly mistake-free game after last week's surprising loss in Buffalo.

This time the interception that changed the game was made by New England instead of thrown by Brady. Patrick Chung got a gift-wrapped pick in the end zone late in the first half when Jason Campbell inexplicably threw the ball right to the safety with no receiver in the area for the Raiders (2-2).

***Redskins 17, Rams 10**

In St. Louis, Ryan Torain ran for 135 yards and a 20-yard score, and Washington held off a late rally by winless St. Louis.

The Redskins (3-1) dominated in defense and got two of their seven sacks late by Stephen Bowen and Brian Orakpo to knock the Rams (0-4) out of scoring position.

***Titans 31, Browns 13**

At Cleveland, Matt Hasselbeck's fresh start in Tennes-

see has his team off to an unexpected one.

The 13-year veteran quarterback, who left Seattle as a free agent after a playoff-filled decade, threw three TD passes in the first half and safety Jordan Babineaux returned an interception 97 yards for a TD for their third straight win under first-year coach Mike Munchak.

Hasselbeck threw for 194 yards in the first half while helping the Titans (3-1) build a 21-6 lead. The 36-year-old finished 10 of 20 for 220 yards — 26 on two completions after halftime.

***Saints 23, Jaguars 10**

At Jacksonville, Florida, Drew Brees threw for 351 yards and a touchdown, Darren Sproles added 188 yards and New Orleans improved to 3-1.

The Saints scored TDs on their first two possessions and looked well on their way to reaching 30 points for the fourth consecutive week. □



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Long road from farm to fork worsens food outbreaks

MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The recent listeria outbreak from cantaloupes shows that large-scale occurrences of serious illnesses linked to tainted food have grown more common over the years, partly because much of what Americans eat takes a long and winding road from farm to fork.

A cantaloupe grown on a Colorado field may make four or five stops before it reaches the dinner table. There's the packing house where it is cleaned and packaged, then the distributor who contracts with retailers to sell the melons in large quantities. A processor may cut or bag the fruit. The retail distribution center is where the melons are sent out to various stores. Finally it's stacked on display at the grocery store.

Imported fruits and vegetables, which make up almost two-thirds of the produce consumed in the United States, have an even longer journey.

"Increasingly with agribusiness you have limited producers of any given food, so a breakdown in a facility or plant or in a large field crop operation exposes thousands because of the way the food is distributed," says Dr. Brian Currie, an infectious disease spe-



Workers use a tractor to remove plastic from a field of rotting cantaloupe on the Jensen Farms near Holly, Colo. The Food and Drug Administration has recalled 300,000 cases of cantaloupe grown on the Jensen Farms after connecting it with a listeria outbreak.

(AP Photo/Ed Andrieski)

cialist at Montefiore Medical Center in New York.

The Colorado cantaloupe crop that's linked to 84 illnesses and as many as 17 deaths in 19 states has traveled so far and wide that producer Jensen Farms doesn't even know exactly where their fruit ended up. The company said last week that it can't provide a list of retailers that sold the tainted fruit because the melons were sold and resold. It named the 28 states where the fruit was shipped, but people in other states have reported getting sick.

A Kansas-based processor that purchased cantaloupes from Jensen, Carol's Cuts, didn't provide a notice to its customers that it

had sold the farm's cantaloupes until nine days after the original recall.

"The food chain is very complex," says Sherri McGarry, a senior adviser in the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Foods. "There are many steps, and the more steps there are the harder it can be to link up each step to identify what the common source" of an outbreak is. Fewer and larger farms and companies dominate food production in the country. That has driven some consumers to seek out farmers markets and locally grown produce. Supermarkets now highlight food grown nearby, while farmers markets have soared in popularity. □

Obesity or stem cell research could win Nobel

LOUISE NORDSTROM

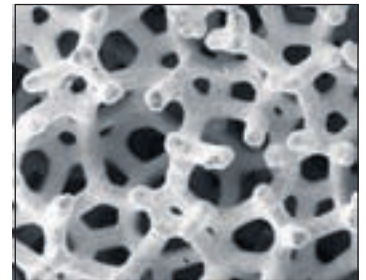
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Two scientists who unlocked some of the mysteries linked to obesity or a professor who figured out how to make stem cells without human embryos could be candidates for the medicine award when the first of the 2011 Nobel Prizes are announced today.

The prize committees don't give any clues — they even keep nominations secret for 50 years — but winners usually have won many other awards and distinctions before they are considered for a Nobel.

Canadian-born Douglas Coleman and American Jeffrey Friedman have won several prizes for their discovery of leptin, a hormone that regulates food intake and body weight, and could be in the running for the coveted prize worth 10 million kronor (\$1.5 million). Last year, Coleman, of the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, and Friedman, of Rockefeller University in New York, received the Lasker Award, often seen as a precursor to the Nobel, for having shown that obesity is frequently linked to metabolic disruptions, or the lack of leptin, rather than being a self-induced problem.

Japanese Shinya Yamanaka, another potential No-



An image of stem cells from U.S. scientists. Two scientists who unlocked some of the mysteries linked to obesity or a professor who figured out how to make stem cells without human embryos could be candidates for the medicine award when the first of the 2011 Nobel Prizes are announced today.

bel candidate, offered the world of regenerative medicine a breakthrough with experiments showing that stem cells can be made from ordinary skin cells. The discovery led to a leap in stem cell research, reducing the need for using human embryos.

Yamanaka won the Lasker Award in 2009 and this year shared Israel's Wolf Prize. One out of three Wolf award-winners in chemistry, physics and medicine have also won a Nobel Prize.

Yamanaka, of Kyoto University in Japan and the Gladstone Institute of Cardiovascular Disease in San Francisco, could share the prize with British cloning pioneer John Gurdon or Canadian stem cell researcher James Till.

Till discovered blood stem cells, which have saved the life of many thousands of leukemia patients.

"Gurdon's cloning technique and Yamanaka's stem cells are highly interesting in the field of basic science," wrote science reporter Karin Bojs of Swedish daily Dagens Nyheter, who has stood out as a leading Nobel guesser over the years. □

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High-tech tools help bands market directly to fans

BEN SISARIO © 2011 New York Times

When the Pixies, the reunited stars of 1980s alt-rock, decided recently to play a special show in Los Angeles, they wanted to make sure their biggest local followers were invited first.

So on Thursday morning, the band sent email messages to 8,031 fans with Southern California ZIP codes, announcing the show and alerting them that "tickets are on sale RIGHT NOW."

All 1,200 tickets for the show, at the Music Box on Nov. 19, were sold in about an hour, said Richard Jones, the band's manager.

The rush was a testimony to the loyalty of Pixies fans. But to manage the whole process online – including reaching out to a small subset of its mailing list and selling the tickets – the group turned to Topspin Media, one of a handful of technology companies that are transforming the way musicians do business by letting them market directly to their audiences.

The "direct to fan" connection has existed in various forms since the earliest days of the Web. But musicians and managers say that only in recent years, with the rise of companies like Topspin and its competitors – among them Bandcamp, FanBridge and ReverbNation – have the tools become sophisticated enough to run all aspects

of a band's online business. Among the services are selling tracks, running fan clubs and calculating royalty payments.

Ian Rogers, Topspin's chief executive, says the ability of artists to efficiently market themselves online represents the next major phase of the digital music revolution, after programs like Pro Tools made it possible to record an album on a laptop and iTunes made download sales viable.

"The fundamental premise of the company is, if the production and distribution of music have already been disrupted by the Internet, how is technology going to serve marketing and retail?" said Rogers, who rides a skateboard and has a tattoo of the logo for NeXT Computer, the company Steve Jobs founded after being fired from Apple in the 1980s.

Topspin, which was founded in 2007 and operated by invitation until it opened to wide membership in March, offers bands customizable Web widgets to sell recordings, tickets and merchandise, as well as a detailed back-end accounting system. In July it also began working with the Sundance Institute to distribute independent films. Topspin charges 15 percent of sales plus an annual fee, and has signed up 15,000 acts, fewer than most of its competitors.

But Topspin, whose office in Santa Monica, Calif., is crammed with client memorabilia – a heavy Paul McCartney box set over here, a rack of custom-painted skateboards over there – is known to offer the most technologically advanced direct-to-fan system. And it has developed a specialty of bundling physical goods with downloads.

The company encourages bands to give songs away, wagering that curious fans will come back to buy more lucrative products like T-shirts or deluxe editions that can be combined at various price levels. The company's sales data seem to support that philosophy. Even with plenty of \$2 videos and \$10 posters for sale, the average transaction on Topspin brings in \$26; when tickets are involved, the average is \$88. The filmmaker Kevin Smith ("Clerks," "Red State"), who has an extensive merchandising business, says he believes the service gives artists more control than was ever possible before.

"Topspin helps you understand things that 20 years ago you would have had to rely on people in a large building wearing suits to do for you," Smith said. "They don't run your business for you. They just give you the



When the Pixies, featured above, the reunited stars of 1980s alt-rock, decided recently to play a special show in Los Angeles, they wanted to make sure their biggest local followers were invited first. So on Thursday morning, the band sent email messages to 8,031 fans with Southern California ZIP codes, announcing the show and alerting them that "tickets are on sale RIGHT NOW."

technology so you can run it yourself." Rogers, 39, who got his start running the Beastie Boys' fan site in college and was later recruited by the band to work on its nascent Web operation (the group is now one of Topspin's biggest clients), calls the strategy of combining digital and physical goods "rebundling." It is a remedy, he says, to one of the music industry's most persistent problems: the "unbundling" and subsequent devaluation of the album as a result of consumers' ability to download a single track rather than

the more profitable full CD. "What the Internet has really allowed is not a move from physical to digital, but consumer choice," Rogers said. For thousands of artists, ranging from acts on major labels to those that handle their business by themselves, direct-to-fan marketing has become essential. Last year, for example, the singer Amanda Palmer employed Bandcamp to release an entire album of Radiohead cover songs featuring the ukulele, letting fans set the price (the minimum was 84 cents, to cover royalties).□

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Deal sites have fading allure for merchants

DAVID STREITFELD

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — Like businesses across the land, the Madison Avenue spa Wellpath tried to drum up customers by running heavily discounted coupons on deal-of-the-day websites. But the Internet coupon fad is shrinking faster than fat from a weight-loss laser.

Coupons for the spa drew women from around the metropolitan area eager to see their bulges melt and their wrinkles removed. Once.

"Then they would get another coupon and go do it with someone else," Wellpath's director, Jennifer Bengel, said. "There was no loyalty."

Just a few months ago, daily deal coupons were the new big thing. The biggest dealmaker, Groupon, was preparing to go public at a valuation as high as \$30 billion, which would have been a record amount for a start-up less than three years

old. Hundreds of copycat coupon sites sprung up in Groupon's wake, including DoubleTakeDeals, YourBestDeals, DealFind, DoodleDeals, DealOn, DealSwarm and GoDailyDeals. Deal sites were widely praised as a replacement for local advertising.

Now coupon fatigue is setting in. Groupon's public offering has repeatedly been put off amid stock market turmoil and internal missteps; the company says it is back on track, but some analysts say it may never happen. Dozens of copycats are closing, reformulating or merging, including Local Twist in San Diego, RelishNYC and Crowd Cut in Atlanta. Facebook and Yelp, two powerhouse Internet firms that had big plans for deals, quickly backed off.

Even the biggest Web retailer, Amazon.com, has had trouble gaining traction in oversaturated New York, where it started offer-

ing deals with great fanfare a month ago. There are at least 40 active coupon sites for the city, according to LocalDealSites.com.

Shopping coupons have a long history, and they will undoubtedly continue to play a significant role in local merchants' efforts to attract customers. But what has become apparent is a basic contradiction at the heart of the daily deals industry on the Internet.

The consumers were being told: You will never pay full price again. The merchants were hearing: You are going to get new customers who will stick around and pay full price. Disappointment was inevitable.

Some entrepreneurs are questioning the entire premise of the industry. Jasper Malcolmson, co-founder of the deal site Bloomspot, compares the basic deal offer with lenders' marketing subprime loans during the housing boom.

"They were giving these



Jennifer Bengel, the director of Wellpath, a spa that has experienced few repeat customers after using deal-of-the-day websites, at work in New York. Some entrepreneurs question the usefulness of pitting customers seeking deals against merchants wanting customers to stick around long enough to pay full price.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

mortgages to every consumer regardless of whether he could handle it," Malcolmson said. "But sooner or later you find that you can't make great offers to people if they're not making you money." He recent-

ly revamped Bloomspot to focus on merchant profitability.

During the first dot-com boom, entrepreneurs tried to develop group-buying sites. They never really worked. □

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Greece to miss deficit targets for 2011-2012

DEMETRIS NELLAS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP)

— Greece won't meet 2011-2012 deficit targets imposed by international lenders as part of the country's bailout, the Finance Ministry said Sunday.

The country's deficit this year is expected to reach 8.5 percent of gross domestic product, or €18.69 billion (\$25.2 billion) — higher than the targeted €17.1 billion (\$23.1 billion), which would have been 7.8 percent of GDP, the ministry said.

Greece has been reliant since May 2010 on regular payouts of loans from a €110 billion (\$150 billion) bailout from other euro-zone countries and the International Monetary Fund. It was granted a second €109 billion package in July, but details of that deal remain to be worked out.

The Finance Ministry said the missed target was because of a deeper-than-expected recession, with the economy contracting by 5.5 percent instead of the 3.8 percent estimate made in May. It implied the deficit could even exceed this level by the end of the year unless all new austerity measures were implemented.

"The final estimate for a deficit equal to 8.5 percent of GDP can be achieved, if there is a proper response by the state authorities and the citizens themselves, on whose stance the country's financial ... and social future depends," the announcement said. □



People burn copies of emergency tax notices outside a tax office in the northern Greek port city of Thessaloniki. The inspectors from the International Monetary Fund, European Central Bank and European Commission returned to Athens this week after suspending their review earlier this month over missed targets and delayed implementation of reforms. Their approval is critical for Greece to receive the next euro 8 billion installment of its euro110 billion (\$150 billion) bailout loan package agreed on last year.

(AP Photo/Nikolas Giakoumidis)

Doubts grow, not economy, under UK austerity drive

DAVID STRINGER

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Jobs have been lost, libraries shuttered, sailors sacked and street lights dimmed — Britain is beginning to taste the bitter medicine David Cameron warned was necessary to fix its wounded economy. It's left some wondering: Is the remedy worse than the symptoms?

As Cameron's Conservative Party gathered in Manchester Sunday for its annual convention, the prime minister faced a test of his resolve to tame the country's ballooning budget deficit — his key priority since taking office in May 2010 at the head of Britain's first coalition government since World War II. Though the sharpest measures of a 81 billion pound (\$126 billion) four-year program of public spending cuts are yet to bite, there are fears that the drastic action intended to slash Britain's debts has stalled the country's stuttering economic growth — a point of growing unease between the Conservatives and their left-of-center partners, the Liberal Democrats.

Figures released last month showed growth in Britain had slowed to 0.2 percent in the second quarter, diminishing hopes that the country's businesses can generate new jobs to replace public sector posts being lost under the austerity plan. In the last year about 250,000 public sector workers have been laid off, and the country's jobless rate was 7.9 percent in the period between May and July.

Cameron insisted Sunday that the government's plan would revive Britain's economy and leave the country on a sound fiscal footing. "Things are difficult," he told the BBC, "but we need to explain to people what are we trying to build at the end of it." □

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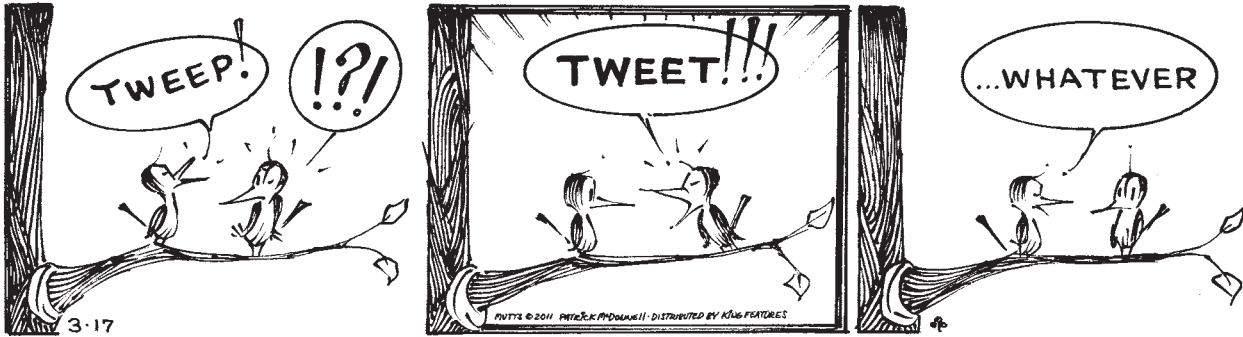
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Conceptis Sudoku

	5			4			7	
9				1	2			8
		7				9		
	3		7		4		8	
7								1
	8		3		9		6	
		1				3		
4			8		7			5
	7			9			4	

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/17

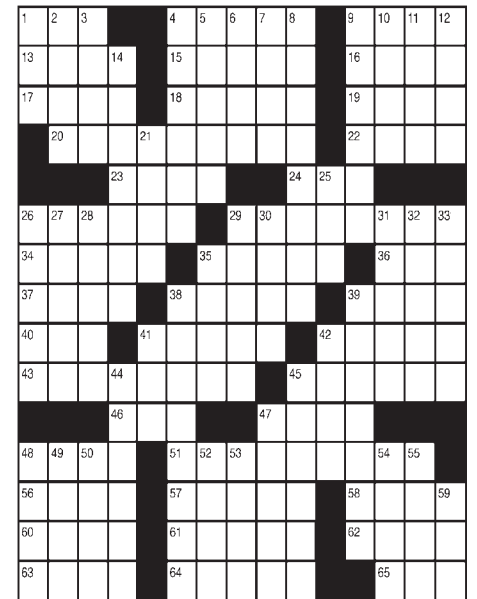
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	3	5	7	2	4	9	1	6
7	2	9	6	1	8	3	5	4
1	6	4	9	3	5	7	2	8
9	7	8	5	6	1	4	3	2
5	1	3	4	8	2	6	9	7
2	4	6	3	7	9	1	8	5
6	9	2	8	4	3	5	7	1
4	5	1	2	9	7	8	6	3
3	8	7	1	5	6	2	4	9

ACROSS

- Lincoln's nickname
- ___ out; become inattentive
- Run ___; meet
- Fly high
- Erie or Panama
- Cruel
- ___ Johnson of TV's "Laugh-In"
- Unfasten
- ___ up; confined
- Chaperoning
- Therefore
- Rowers' needs
- Lend a hand to
- Like casual attire
- Imagine
- Warty amphibians
- Decorative
- Neither....
- Pitcher's delights
- India's dollar
- Chevy model of the 1970s
- Successful combat pilot
- Mexican money
- Cause of an infectious disease
- Give an ultimatum to
- Baby's sock
- ___, Sweet as Apple Cider
- Stuffed
- Housekeeper
- Vital
- Arthur of tennis
- Hideaways
- ___ off; begins a golf game
- Take ___ leave it
- Vote into office
- ___ other; one another
- Cuts off
- Goes skyward
- Definite article



3/17/11

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

CLAN	ISLES	POLL
AIDE	MAUVE	OLIO
KNOT	PINEAPPLES	
EEL	FANG	SLANT
ERECT	BAA	
ABSENT	WALRUS	
RACED	CLAIM	NOG
CLEF	BROIL	IDLE
HEN	ALOOF	GREEN
STATIC	HOARSE	
MOP	BEANS	
AGAIN	BRAD	TEN
DUNDERHEAD	LUGE	
ARTS	PEEVE	ADOS
MUST	METER	CYST

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3/17/11

- Dines
- Run off quickly
- Trousers
- "Nay" voter
- Abel's brother
- Grandeur
- Get in the way of
- ___-do-well; loser
- Sharp flavor
- Climb ___; crawl atop
- Tapes
- Cheerios ingredient
- Very, very cold
- Brown ermine
- Kangaroo's pocket
- Western movie
- Many a male chicken
- Small bills
- Lifeless; still
- In ___; stylish
- Wipe away
- Short ___; quick temper

DOWN

- As busy ___ bee
- Drill a hole

- Store that sells to the public
- Break, as a law
- Launch site
- Lightbulb's "V"
- Sea ducks
- Explodes
- Coerce
- USPS delivery
- Regarding chain
- Restaurant
- African nation
- Dessert picks
- Orderly
- Abbr. in many school names
- That girl

Today In History

The Associated Press
Today is Monday, October 3rd, the 276th day of 2011. There are 89 days left in the year.
Highlights in history on this date:

1226 - St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, dies.
 1789 - U.S. President George Washington proclaims the first national Thanksgiving Day; observed Nov. 26 in honor of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution.
 1824 - A republican constitution is adopted in Mexico, until then an empire.
 1866 - Italy and Austria sign a peace treaty in which Austria surrenders Venice and the surrounding region to Italy.
 1899 - Settlement of British Guiana-Venezuela boundary dispute.
 1922 - Rebecca L. Felton, a Democrat from Georgia becomes the first woman to be in the U.S. Senate. She was appointed to serve out the remaining term of Sen. Thomas E. Watson.
 1929 - Name of Serbo-Croat-Slovene Kingdom is changed to Yugoslavia.
 1932 - Iraq joins League of Nations as British mandate ends.
 1935 - Italian forces invade Ethiopia.
 1941 - Germany's Adolf Hitler announces the Soviet Union has been defeated and never will rise again.
 1942 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt establishes the Office of Economic Stabilization and authorizes controls on farm prices, rents, wages and salaries.
 1944 - U.S. troops crack the Siegfried Line north of Aachen, Germany, during World War II.
 1945 - U.S. President Harry Truman warns Congress that "atomic force in ignorant or evil hands could inflict untold disaster upon the nation and the world."
 1952 - British test their first atomic bomb off coast of Australia.
 1954 - Foreign ministers of seven West European nations, the United States and Canada agree to allow West Germany to join the



Today is Chubby Checker's birthday

NATO.
 1963 - The Honduran armed forces oust Ramon Villeda Morales as president in a violent coup d'etat.
 1968 - Leftist military coup in Peru ousts President Fernando Belaunde Terry and imposes sweeping land reforms and nationalization.
 1973 - The Austrian government curbs group transit of Soviet Jewish emigrants through Austria, and says it will close Israeli-run facilities that house emigrants awaiting transfer to Israel after hostages are taken by Arab guerillas.
 1977 - India's former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is arrested in New Delhi on two charges of corruption while in office. She is released a day later.
 1981 - Irish nationalists at the Maze Prison near Belfast, Northern Ireland, end seven months of hunger strikes that claimed 10 lives.
 1990 - East and West Germany are united.
 1991 - Shimon Peres, the head of Israel's opposition Labor Party, urges the government to freeze the construction of settlements in the occupied territories in order to expedite the U.S.-led effort to initiate Middle East peace talks.
 1993 - At least 12 U.S. Army

soldiers are killed in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, in a 15-hour battle with supporters of Somali warlord General Mohammed Farah Aidid.
 1994 - Jordan and Israel sign peace agreement.
 1995 - Former U.S. football star O.J. Simpson is acquitted of the 1994 slayings of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.
 1996 - U.S. President Bill Clinton and the foreign ministers of Great Britain, China, France and Russia sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty forbidding all testing of nuclear weapons.
 1997 - Earthquakes in central Italy injure 20 people and cause further damage to the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, damaged by earthquakes a week earlier.
 1998 - 10,000 Turkish soldiers cross into northern Iraq to attack Kurdish rebels.
 1999 - For the first time in postwar Austria, nationalist Joerg Haider's far-right Freedom Party wins second place in parliamentary elections, positioning him for negotiations on participating in the next government.

Today's Birthdays:

Charles Camille St. Saens, French composer (1835-1921); Pierre Bonnard, French painter (1867-1947); Gore Vidal, U.S. writer (1925-), Chubby Checker, U.S. singer (1941-), Tommy Lee, drummer formerly w/ rock group Motley Crue (1962-).

Thought For Today:

Don't be humble; you're not that great — Golda Meir, Israeli prime minister (1898-1978).

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'Dolphin' deposes 'Lion' with \$14.2M to grab No. 1

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A dolphin has dethroned "The Lion King" at the weekend box office.

The Warner Bros. family film "Dolphin Tale" held up well with \$14.2 million in its second weekend to take the No. 1 spot from "The Lion King," the Disney re-issue that had been the top movie for the past two weekends.

"The Lion King" slipped to third place with \$11.1 million, just behind Sony's Brad Pitt baseball tale "Moneyball," which was No. 2 in its second weekend with \$12.5 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Dolphin Tale" features Harry Connick Jr., Ashley Judd and Morgan Freeman in a

real-life story about strangers who team up to help an injured dolphin. The movie had debuted a week earlier at No. 3, closely behind "The Lion King" and "Moneyball," but it earned good word-of-mouth that kept fans coming.

"There's just something about a dolphin," said Jeff Goldstein, general sales manager for Warner Bros. "It just looks interesting, and it looks wholesome and compelling and fun." The three holdover films held off a rush of new wide releases. In a photo finish for the No. 4 spot were SummitEntertainment's cancer comic drama "50/50," starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Seth Rogen, with \$8.85 million and Sony's Christian-themed police drama



Austin Highsmith is seen here in the role of Phoebe in Alcon Entertainment's family adventure, "Dolphin Tale", in the Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Associated Press

Alton Brown wants next cookbook to be e-book

J.M. HIRSCH

AP Food Editor

NEW YORK (AP) — Alton Brown's next cookbook may be more like "The Matrix" than Food Network.

That's because the host of the network's "Iron Chef America" says he's done with old-school publishing and wants to focus instead on innovative e-books.

"I want to go where nobody has gone before," Brown said Saturday during an interview at the New York City Wine and Food Festival. "I want to change the way we deal with information in the kitchen."

He says his just-released book, "Good Eats 3," will be his last traditional cookbook. Future books — each of which will have 25 recipes — will be immersive, highly interactive blends of text, photos and video.

And this isn't your average cooking demo video. Alton says the videos are being shot using a circle of 40 cameras that capture the action from all angles. Viewers then will be able to pan around the scene, stopping and watching it from any angle. He likened the experience to the so-called stop-motion special



Food Network star Alton Brown speaks during an interview on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, in New York. Brown has recently published his third and last print installment of his bestselling Good Eats series of cookbooks and is actively moving into innovative e-books.

Associated Press

effects used in the science-fiction movie "The Matrix," in which the action seemed to freeze while the camera angle rotated. Brown hopes future innovations will include kitchen tools that connect wirelessly to tablet computers, allowing the recipes to automatically adapt to a user's ingredients or cooking conditions. "We're trying to figure out how to reinvent information flow, to break out of recipes," he says. □

"Courageous" with \$8.8 million. Debuting at No. 6 with \$8.2 million was Universal's "Dream House," a fright flick starring Daniel Craig, Rachel Weisz and Naomi Watts. The weekend's other new wide release, the 20th Century Fox romantic comedy "What's Your Number?" starring Anna Faris and Chris Evans, flopped at No. 8 with \$5.6 million.

It was an unusual weekend when carry-over films continued to rule the market, with family crowds particularly strong. "Normally, fall is when you get Oscar contenders and R-rated, more-challenging films," said Paul Dergarabedian, an analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "But now looking at 'Lion King' and 'Dolphin Tale,' that says summer is not the only time when family audiences want to go to the movies."

"Dolphin Tale" raised its total to \$37.5 million, while "Moneyball" lifted its domestic haul to \$38.5 million. "The Lion King" has pulled in \$79.7 million in its 3-D re-release, adding to the nearly \$800 million worldwide the animated blockbuster earned in its original 1994 run and a 2002 reissue.

It also was an unusually uplifting weekend for Hollywood, with "Dolphin Tale" and the rest of the top-five movies all telling inspiration-

al stories. "Moneyball" stars Pitt as Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane, who beat the odds and built a contending team on a tiny budget. "The Lion King" remains one of the great animated sagas as a wrongly exiled cub returns to triumph over his wicked uncle.

"50/50" chronicles the stirring trials of a patient (Gordon-Levitt) fighting cancer with fierce spirit and great humor. "Courageous," from the makers of the Christian-themed films "Fireproof" and "Facing the Giants," follows four policemen struggling to stick to their faith in God on the job and at home.

Marketed heavily to church groups, "Courageous" brought in its crowds in a relatively narrow release of 1,161 theaters. The other top-10 movies ranged from 2,340 to 3,515 theaters.

"The competition was pretty steep with all these inspirational-type films, but it still succeeded in such a big way," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony.

In limited release, a long-delayed film with "True Blood" star Anna Paquin failed to find much of an audience. "Margaret," starring Paquin as a teen caught in a moral crisis over her culpability in a fatal traffic accident, pulled in a scant \$7,496

from two theaters, averaging \$3,748 a cinema.

That compares to \$7,580 a theater for "Courageous," which had the best average among the top-10 films.

"Margaret," whose cast also includes Matt Damon, Mark Ruffalo and Matthew Broderick, was shot in 2005 then delayed by lawsuits involving director Kenneth Lonergan ("You Can Count on Me") and distributor Fox Searchlight over the final cut of the film.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Dolphin Tale," \$14.2 million.
2. "Moneyball," \$12.5 million.
3. "The Lion King," \$11.1 million (\$1.8 million international).
4. "50/50," \$8.85 million.
5. "Courageous," \$8.8 million.
6. "Dream House," \$8.2 million.
7. "Abduction," \$5.65 million.
8. "What's Your Number?," \$5.6 million.
9. "Contagion," \$5 million.
10. "Killer Elite," \$4.9 million.

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In this Aug. 23, 2011 file photo, Gene Simmons, left, and Shannon Tweed arrive at the "Scarface" Legacy Celebration Event in Los Angeles. Associated Press

Kiss Gene Simmons and longtime girlfriend marry

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rocker Gene Simmons and his longtime girlfriend, actress Shannon Tweed, have tied the knot. Publicist Dawn Miller offered her congratulations to "the new married couple" on Facebook. Simmons and Tweed have been a couple for years. Their engagement announcement last month surprised many fans.

People magazine reported the couple exchanged vows they wrote themselves. The magazine said about 400 guests attended the Saturday evening ceremony outside a Beverly Hills hotel. The 62-year-old Kiss bassist and the 54-year-old Tweed have two children.

The new season of the reality show "Gene Simmons Family Jewels" premieres Tuesday on the A&E network.

Clooney: Ohio roots influenced 'Ides of March'

CINCINNATI (AP) — George Clooney says his Ohio-Kentucky roots and his father's failed bid for political office influenced his upcoming film, "The Ides of March."

Clooney tells The Cincinnati Enquirer that he decided to film the movie in Cincinnati because he knows it well and thought it would be fun to shoot in his hometown.

The movie is directed by Clooney, who stars as fictional presidential candidate and Pennsylvania Gov. Mike Morris. Co-star Ryan Gosling plays the governor's idealistic press secretary who learns quickly about dirty politics.

Clooney tells the newspaper that the movie was inspired by his father Nick Clooney's unsuccessful 2004 run for Kentucky's 4th Congressional District.

George says many of his character's political views are derived from his father's work as a columnist for the now-defunct newspaper The Cincinnati Post.

'Grease' actor Conaway died of major infections

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An autopsy has ruled that "Taxi" and "Grease" star actor Jeff Conaway's May 27 death was accidental and caused by major internal infection.

Los Angeles County coroner Craig Harvey says coroners did not conduct a toxicology test because Conaway had been hospitalized for weeks prior to his death, so his blood would have come back clean.

However, Harvey says when Conaway entered the hospital May 10, opiates and other drugs were in his system.

Despite rain, Black Eyed Peas Central Park benefit goes on



The Black Eyed Peas perform during a concert in Central Park, New York, Sept. 30, 2011. The concert on Friday benefitted the Robin Hood Foundation, raising nearly \$4 million from VIP ticket sales and corporate donations for its anti-poverty mission. (Chad Batka/The New York Times)

JON CARAMANICA
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Often will.i.am, the front-man and behind-the-boards maestro of the Black Eyed Peas, will appear in public wearing what seems to be a plastic mold, or sheath, covering his head, giving him the air of an Afro-futurist cybernaut or a character from a William Gibson novel. It turns out he's just planning for rain. He was certainly the most prepared for the steadily falling sheets that arrived during a goofy, fantastical and likable show Friday night in Central Park, a large-scale disruption that barely left a dent in the impenetrable scrum of bruising electro-rap and good cheer that is a Black Eyed Peas concert. Mother Nature had undone this show — an extremely rare pop concert on the Great Lawn (and perhaps the first to feature vulgarities) — once before. It was originally scheduled for June, when inclement weather forced a cancellation.

But: "We don't take no for an answer," will.i.am said from the stage, the "we" being his group and the Robin Hood Foundation, which raised \$4 million from VIP ticket sales and corporate donations for its anti-poverty mission.

Fundraising on that scale requires consensus, a thing the Black Eyed Peas do well, with their deeply inclusive music and overall politics of relentless optimism. But they prompt a shadow consensus as well, one not on display in this rain-resistant crowd of thousands: rage among those who view the Peas as an unsalvageable wreck of lowest-common-denominator schlock.

The nays certainly have a point. No gimmick is beneath this group, which has become a prime plunderer of pop history in its quest for ubiquity. Midshow, will.i.am delivered a brief DJ set, cheesier than that of any wedding DJ, from a riser onstage. The Eurythmics' "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)," Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit," Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'," Guns N' Roses' "Sweet Child O' Mine": He moved from one to the next quickly and bluntly, implicitly locating the Peas in their lineage.

It's a graceless and yet somehow not hubristic move. Take, for example, "The Time (Dirty Bit)," which samples "(I've Had) The Time of My Life" from the "Dirty Dancing" soundtrack: The only logical response, besides revulsion, is pity. During "Don't Stop the Party," the overhead screen

displayed images of their travels around the world, including a quick clip of Fergie shimmying alongside George Lucas. Is that what superstardom leads to? No one deserves that.

And yet this group isn't nearly as clunky as it often appears. Will.i.am in particular is a gifted producer, and at this performance he made sure to show off different sides. At one point he was at a piano; at another he was rapping hard, apart from the rest of the group. Mostly the group stuck to its last two albums — "The E.N.D." (Interscope), its world-killer from 2009, and "The Beginning," from last year. But unusually, the Black Eyed Peas spent the longest amount of time on "Joins & Jam," their first hit, from when they were as much dance crew as chipper rappers. At this concert they tried to show that they were musicians, or at least friends with musicians. The guitar player, the saxophonist, the trumpeter all had solos. Throughout, a screen behind the stage played clips from the song's video, with will.i.am breakdancing in a retro cardigan; compared with the "Tron" graphics and "RoboCop" outfits onstage, the video seemed to come from another millennium.

The curse of the Mitt



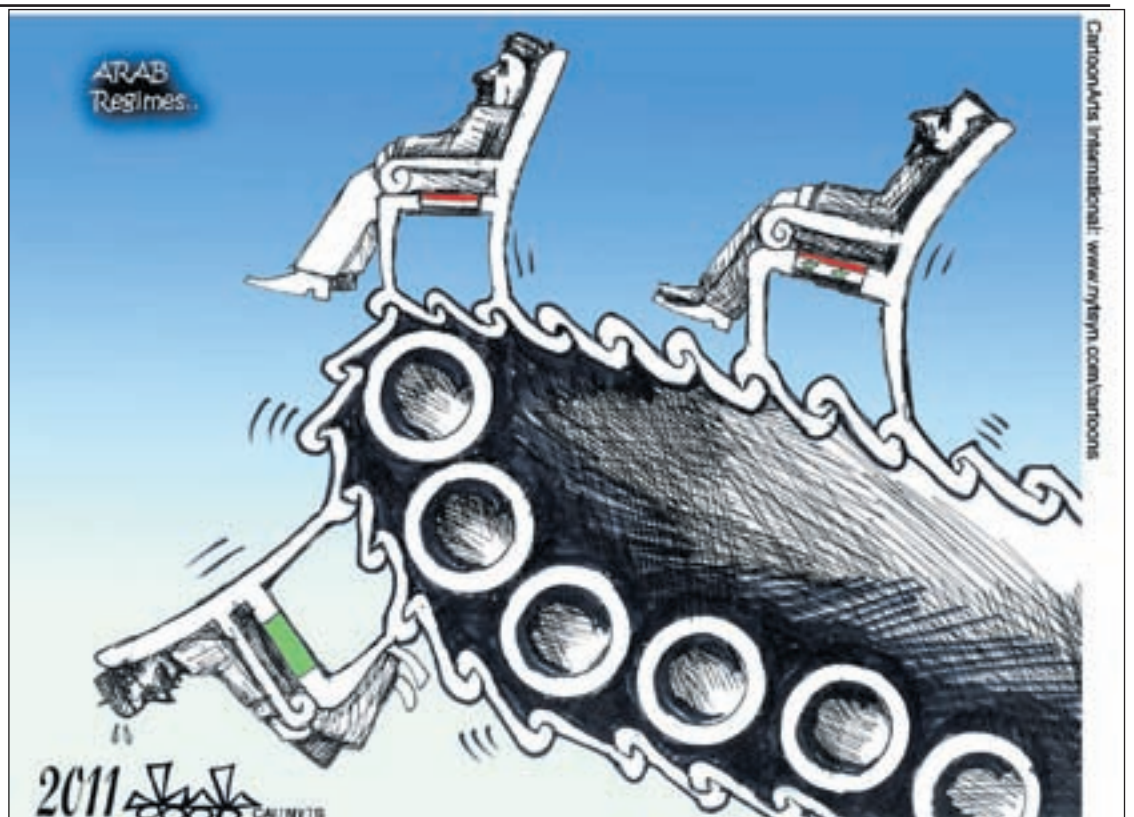
GAIL COLLINS

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Everybody is talking about the Boston Red Sox and their spectacular, disastrous end-of-season collapse. They had a nine-game lead on Sept. 3! They went 7-20 in September! Blew the final, deciding game at the bottom of the ninth! For many Americans, this was actually a feel-good story because it didn't involve the possible loss of a family member's job or pension. But Red Sox fans are going crazy. How did it happen? Bad managing? Bad pitching? Is the Curse of the Bambino back? All I want to know is whether we can blame it on Mitt Romney. Mitt's been on a roll, knocking over one new challenger after another on the road to the Republican presidential nomination. As soon as they get near him, they seem to go ga-ga. Rick Perry is sounding as if English is his third language. Michele Bachmann is seeing invisible people who tell her terrible stories about killer vaccines. Newt Gingrich has contracted scary delusions of grandeur. ("The scale of change I am suggesting is so enormous I couldn't possibly, as a single leader, show you everything I'm going to do ...") Rick Santorum is on Fox News, brightly announcing: "We finished fourth in the straw poll in Florida, which was a big help to us." The Republicans are running out of governors to put up against Romney. This week the cry has been for Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey to get into the race, although I am personally rooting for Gov. Butch Otter of Idaho because of his strong record of fiscal conservatism and the fact that I really enjoy writing "Butch Otter" over and over and over. Unfortunately, the Otter boomlet has yet to take hold. Nancy Reagan, Henry Kissinger and George H.W. Bush all reportedly called Christie urging him to run. Those are very impressive names, although sooner or later he's going to have to get some high-profile supporters under the age of 85. Wait! Here comes George Pataki! "This country needs a straight-shooter and a proven leader. I urge Gov. Chris Christie to run for president to fill the void and lead America forward," the

former governor of New York said in a statement. Pataki's endorsement is extremely important because he coveted the nomination himself. He has been testing the waters in New Hampshire for some time, mainly by wandering up there every once in a while, hanging out in hotel coffee shops and waiting for somebody to notice him. This was very similar to the way he governed New York. Christie has been hesitant, possibly because he knows about the Curse of the Mitt, which causes hitherto successful politicians to act like blithering idiots just as it causes front-running superteams to suddenly start blowing games right and left. Maybe Mitt made a pact with the Baseball Gods and traded the pennant for his nomination. I've heard that these things can be done. You just have to bury a special raw steak under a nice bush with a well-groomed appearance that would please the sports spirits. Perhaps like the ones at the former Romney home in Belmont, Mass., where the shrubbery was once so carefully tended by a team of undocumented workers. What do you think Romney was doing when the team he refers to as "my Red Sox" lost their spot in the playoffs? Chris Christie probably felt his strength ebbing with every dropped ball and bobbled pitch. Mitt has always claimed to be a baseball fan, even though his best-known sports moments involved running the Winter Olympics in Utah. He attended a game between Boston and Tampa Bay this summer, and chatting with reporters, expressed surprise that Tropicana Field, home of the dreaded Tampa Bay Rays, was enclosed and air-conditioned. ("It's cool. I had no idea.") This caused some cynics to express doubt about Romney's passion for baseball, since the field in question has been under a dome for more than 12 years during which the Red Sox played 100-plus games there. I bet you didn't know what kind of stadium the Tampa Bay Rays played in either, right? Let's cut the guy some slack. But only about Tropicana Field. Otherwise, I would like a little input. Do you think Mitt Romney has created the bad karma that was responsible for the total collapse of the Boston Red Sox? Do you think that if he's elected president, no blue-state team will ever win the World Series again? Do you think his favorite sport is really baseball, or maybe luge racing? Is there a way to work the fact that he drove to Canada with the family dog strapped on the roof of the car into this story?

We'll see what happens. But if the Patriots lose on Sunday, Butch Otter had better watch out. □



The Nuremberg scripts

JOE

NOCERA

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In November 1945, six months after Germany's surrender to the Allies, a 24-year-old Army combat engineer named Harold Burson was handed a new assignment: covering the upcoming Nuremberg trial for the American Forces Network. For the next five months, Burson was one of two soldiers who reported on the trial and produced a daily "script," which was read over the air by the network's announcers. Burson is 90 now. The co-founder of Burson-Marsteller, one of the world's largest public relations firms, he still goes to the office every day where he holds the title of founding chairman and even writes the occasional blog post. He told me not long ago that every five years or so, he goes back and re-reads those old scripts, marveling at the remarkable experience he'd been afforded at such a young age. My response was immediate: Could I see his scripts? A few days later, a thick binder landed on my desk.

As I began to read the old, typewritten scripts, I found myself marveling as well, for different reasons than Burson. Though there were a series of Nuremberg trials, that first one was by far the most important. It was the only one conducted jointly by the Soviet Union, Britain, America and France; the Cold War would soon make it impossible for the Soviets and the Americans to work together. It also put on trial the most important Nazis still living, 20 in all. (A 21st defendant, Martin Bormann, Hitler's private secretary, was tried in absentia because the Allies were not yet sure that he was dead.) The "you-are-there" quality of Burson's scripts

— written with a fellow corporal, Sy Bernhard — is completely gripping, as good as anything done by the famous correspondents covering the trial, like Howard K. Smith, then of CBS News. Here is Hermann Goering, Hitler's second in command, "wearing his dove gray, brass-buttoned, ill-fitting striped Luftwaffe uniform," utterly "defiant and arrogant" on the witness stand. And here is Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy in the Nazi Party, "a bent, scarecrow of a figure under the glare of the court's spotlights" who feigns mental illness until the court holds a sanity hearing, during which he dramatically announces that it's all been an act. Although Burson's scripts, like all good journalism, highlight moments of high drama, they also allude to many humdrum times — days on end devoted to entering captured German documents into evidence. As it turns out, those documents, far more than the testimony of the defendants, are the real reasons why the Nuremberg trial still matters. "At first, none of us reporters believed that the Germans had documented everything,"

Burson recalls. "But it was true. They documented the execution of prisoners of war and the mass extermination of Jews." Burson had heard about the concentration camp atrocities from journalists who had been to Bergen-Belsen. But the trial was when he first saw the horrific photographs and even some movie footage of the camps — photographs and movies the Germans themselves had taken. "Our earliest basis for understanding the Holocaust comes from the Nuremberg documents," says John Q. Barrett, a law professor at St. John's University who is an expert on the

Nuremberg trials. There was another aspect to Harold's scripts, one I found almost endearing. They have an earnest, idealistic quality that reminds you just how full of hope America was after World War II. Though we had fought a brutal war, we were determined to act generously to the vanquished. That even applied to the Nazi brass who had committed reprehensible crimes against humanity. "GIs have one stock question," reads Burson's very first script. "Why can't we just take them out and shoot 'em? We know they're guilty." Again and again, Burson's scripts try to answer that question. Because "the guilt of the German leaders should be carefully documented." Because "we of the four nations are devoted to law and order." Because "our system is not lynch law. We will dispense punishment as the evidence demands." Led by the Americans, the Allies were insistent that the Nazi defendants be treated fairly; Burson's pride in that ethos shines through on every page. This postwar idealism was one of the Greatest Generation's finest qualities. Today's more cynical country sorely misses it. By the time the first trial ended, Burson was back in America, starting his long career in public relations. On Oct. 1, 1946 — exactly 65 years ago — the justices overseeing the trial rendered their verdict. Eleven of the defendants were sentenced to be hanged. (Goering evaded this sentence by committing suicide.) Most of the others were given prison sentences, including Rudolf Hess, whose life sentence ended with his death in 1987 at the age of 93. Most remarkable of all, though, three of the defendants were found not guilty. The victors had proved their point. □

West puts prejudices about celeb designers to bed

JENNY BARCHFIELD

AP Fashion Writer

PARIS (AP) — Kanye West may have more than a dozen Grammy awards to his name, but fear of the fashion world turned the rapper, singer and music producer extraordinaire into a nervous wreck on Saturday, as he debuted his new luxury clothing line.

He was right to worry: The fashion industry is notoriously catty and, even though West had been a front-row

celebrities, including Lohan herself, West's debut was THE event of Paris fashion week, and it stole the thunder from Saturday's other shows.

Jean Paul Gaultier can usually be counted on to deliver a real fashion spectacle, but Saturday's show was strangely plodding and staid. With Paris in the grips of a freak heat wave, the venue became an sort of inferno and the show's hour-late start turned the

and fun as usual.

It was as if Japan's Tsumori Chisato were in touch with the weather gods: With the Indian summer beating down on Europe, her tropical themed separates felt spot-on.

Australian-born designer Martin Grant's was one of those collections where you coveted simply everything. The wide-legged trousers in canary silk jersey; the halter tops in graphic black and white prints; the maxi-dress-



Models wear creations by rap singer Kanye West for his spring-summer 2012 ready-to-wear collection presented in Paris.

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)

regular at fashion shows for years, it had greeted the news that he was planning to launch his own line with raised eyebrows, preemptively consigning him to the same category of celebrity designers as the likes of Lindsay Lohan and her leg-gings.

But West proved nay-sayers wrong with his slick collection of sexy, hard-edged looks that were hands-down better — in terms of design and construction — than much of what's been shown during the first five days of Paris' spring-summer 2012 ready-to-wear collections.

Attended by the creme de la creme of the fashion world and a sprinkling of

whole thing into a sort of Chinese torture, redeemed only by the beauty of the clothes.

Usually Viktor & Rolf collections are exercises in an almost ostentatious creativity, but Saturday's display was less about over-the-top experimentation than detail. But outrageousness had not completely deserted the building: The models took to the catwalk from beneath a giant pleated skirt the size of a giant tee-pee.

France's reigning queen of knitwear, Sonia Rykiel, was also more subdued than usual, though her pleated culottes and relaxed pant suits in creamy whites and yellows were as still sporty

es hung with floor-length strips, like seaweed. It was a great collection and among the strongest shows of the day.

Paris' spring-summer 2011 collections move into day six out of nine on Sunday, with shows by three of the City of Light's top labels, Hermes, Celine and Givenchy.

KANYE WEST

Given their more than healthy dose of skepticism about the West's line, it was with slightly humbled wonder that the fashion editors, stylists and journalists hand-picked to attend the late-night show greeted the sophisticated, highly designed looks on the catwalk. □



A model wears a creation by rap singer Kanye West for his spring-summer 2012 ready-to-wear collection presented in Paris.

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)



A model wears a creation by Netherlands fashion designer Steffie Christiaens for her spring-summer 2012 ready to wear collection presented Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, in Paris.

(AP Photo / Laurent Cipriani)